

## Fears of fall in population as birth rate goes down

population of England and Wales may be dropped by about 10,000 in the year ended 1975, the first peacetime reduction since records began in 1837. Preliminary figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys show a continuing fall in the birth rate instead of a predicted halt, and net emigration staying at the high 1974 level of 49,000.

## First peacetime drop for 138 years

The birth rate appears to be falling at such a rate that population may have fallen for the first time in 138 years since records began.

Summary figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, issued yesterday, show that in the year ended 1975, the population may be dropped by about 10,000, or 38,000 more than deaths, and a net high rate of emigration continued at the 1974 level of 49,000.

Factors stand out from the figures, confirmation that the birth rate is unlikely to be restored to the level of the 1960s, and that the population office had been expecting a decline, predicted to be 10,000 in 1974, and 10,000 in 1975.

Net emigration was by the office to drop 300 this year, and 8,000 next. Instead, net outflow remained high. Demography does not generally attach significance to emigration, but the present rate may be a sign of the influence of the

## Snapped heir died alive

Our Correspondent  
York, Aug 13

Kidnappers of Mr Samuel, the 21-year-old heir to the Seagram family, were demanding \$4.5m (£2.14m) ransom and have dined his family that their "buried" son with only 10 supply of water.

The rescue was carried out soon after dawn when the weather was suddenly clearing. They had been planned down by bad weather since Monday night, when the professor, the oldest man to have climbed the north face of the Eiger, and Mr Vacher had reached the summit after a two-day ascent.

## Climber aged 67 rescued from Eiger summit

Our Correspondent  
Geneva, Aug 13

Professor Jean Juge, the president of the International Union of Alpine Associations, who is 67, was today picked up by a helicopter of the Swiss Air Rescue Guard from near the Eiger summit (13,025ft).



An aerial view of the forest fire, which now covers about 12,000 acres, near Githorn, West Germany.

## BAOR joins battle against fire

From Dan van der Vat  
Bonn, Aug 13

A fire which has been raging across north-west Germany since Friday began today as it moved towards the East German border today.

Fanned by a brisk wind the fire, West Germany's worst post-war environmental disaster, forced the evacuation of 2,000 people from eight villages in an area east of Celle in Lower Saxony during the night.

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## Portuguese security force puts forward its own solution

From Michael Knipe  
Lisbon, Aug 13

Copcon, the Army command which controls internal security, today put forward its own programme for the country's future. It did so amid further signs that the armed forces were swinging behind the nine officers who were suspended from the Supreme Revolutionary Council last week after publishing a manifesto calling for a slowing down of the revolutionary process.

Left-wing newspapers said tonight that Copcon's statement contained ideas that would be to the liking of the revolutionary left.

A meeting of about 100 operational commanders from all parts of the country was today discussing the document under the chairmanship of General Otello Saravia de Carvalho.

The document rejects Soviet-style communism and advocates worker control. It also admits that the Armed Forces' movement has been "highly responsible for Portugal's present political and economic crisis." The police, however, would allow the country's right wing to regain control, it says.

visible, realistic proposal that can be offered to the people for a socialist society that will be a total denial of fascist, social democracy, and state capitalism." The latter term refers to Soviet-style communism.

The Copcon document appears to advocate the rechartering of Portugal's revolutionary course on Cuban or Chinese lines, claiming to offer more power to the people at grass roots level.

It opposes the strengthening of ties with the European Economic Community, and calls for the cutting off of foreign investment which, it claims, has been exploiting cheap labour.

Criticising the moderates' manifesto for ignoring what it describes as the fundamental fact of the resurgence of fascism, the document says that fascism has come out from the shadows and gone on to the attack by violent action.

The document calls for the restructuring of the political system on the basis of village, factory and borough councils. Copcon also announced that it had arrested 10 counter-revolutionaries, all apparently former members of the fascist youth movement.

Meanwhile, the nine moderate officers continued to defend their action in publishing their manifesto. Admiral Vitor Crespo, the former High Commissioner in Mozambique, said that with Portugal in such a critical condition, a political alternative had to be proposed.

to prevent any right-wing flag-wavers from gaining the support of the revolutionary regime no longer enjoyed.

The Government last night issued a decree nationalizing the remaining parts of the country's biggest independent conglomerate, Companhia Uniao Fabril.

The present management structure is to be replaced by an administrative committee consisting of what the Cabinet described as "seven competent people".

## Proposals to stiffen consumers' Act

By Diana Geddes

Proposals for important changes in the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968, including making estate agents criminally liable for issuing false statements about property they sell, were put forward by an inter-departmental committee yesterday.

Launching the proposals, contained in a consultative document, Mr John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, who was chairman of the committee, said at a press conference in London yesterday that the committee felt that the Act had worked well. The committee comprised representatives of the Department of Trade and Industry (as it was when the committee was set up years ago), the Home Office, the Lord Chancellor's Office and the Office of Fair Trading.

The Act had done what it had set out to do: to encourage high standards of truthfulness in describing goods and services.

Some of the criticisms levelled against the Act were wrong. It was never intended to be a panacea for all consumer ills. Nevertheless, the committee believed it desirable to extend the scope of the Act and to remedy some of its weaknesses.

Under the Act the term "goods" does not cover houses for sale or for rent on long lease. Short-term accommodation is covered under the description "services".

The committee says it sees "no reason why the deterrent effect of the Act should not be used to save the prospective buyer from a waste of his time and money in viewing and perhaps arranging for surveys of property which, if it had not been misdescribed, would not have been viewed".

It proposes that an offence should be created, making those who utter false statements about any type of property, including agricultural and building land and commercial properties, liable to criminal prosecution.

Continued on page 2, col 4

## Sale of foreign cars in Britain sets record

By Our Business News Staff

Sales of foreign cars in the United Kingdom during the first 12 days of the month reached 38,000, a record 41.5 per cent of the market, but there are signs that the importers' sales may slip back to more normal levels by the end of the month.

The large increase reflects the pent-up demand from private motorists who had delayed buying until the "P" registration was introduced on August 1. Fleet sales, a sector dominated by the big four British manufacturers, would not have been similarly affected.

The Japanese Datsun held the leading position among importers, taking 7.3 per cent of the total market, more than

Chrysler or Vauxhall. Volkswagen took second place in the importers' table, followed by Renault and Fiat.

Total sales, assessed from manufacturers' returns and normally published only on a monthly basis, were 91,500 for the 12-day period compared with a total of 57,378 in July, traditionally a poor sales month.

British Leyland's market share so far this month is down to 27.5 per cent but the company is confident that the monthly total will reflect the success of its new "superdeal" campaign. The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders yesterday issued a caution against taking the 12-day figure in isolation. Percentage sales varied almost daily, a spokesman said.

Business News, page 19

## Navy sends lear ships Europe tour

London, Aug 13.—The States is sending an

learn task group, including a new and biggest to Europe next week in

carrier Nürnberg, commissioning in May, is the centre of the group which will

Norfolk, Virginia, 19 and visit England, Germany and Norway

carrier will be accompanied by the new cruiser, Carolina, and the submarine Seahorse.

## Firemen end dispute after agreeing to £6 rise

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff

The Fire Brigades Union last night called off its industrial action and settled for £6 a week from November. It will await the outcome of the Home Office inquiry into the possibility of reducing working hours from 48 to 40 a week.

The union continues to insist that by the end of next year there should be a move to cut the working week. Both sides agreed to have immediate joint discussions to settle the union's demand to end the retained duties system, under which firemen work extra shifts in their spare time.

The two sides met for several hours at County Hall, London, Mr Terence Parry, general secretary of the union, said: "In the circumstances we feel this was the best agreement we could get. It is not what we set out for but we believe our

members will understand the circumstances."

It is expected that by Monday fire services throughout the country will be back to normal, including London, which has been worst affected.

Mr Brian Rusbridge, the employers' negotiator, said: "We do not want recriminations. We are pleased that we can get back to the normal good working relationships in the fire service."

The agreement also provided for a review of payments for wider duties carried out by firemen as a result of new technology. The payments were last agreed in November, 1973. Any new agreement will not take account of cost-of-living pay increases, but will be paid when the Government's pay policy and the financial limitations on the local government allow.

It is unlikely that the union will cooperate with the inquiry into the 40-hour week.

## Negotiations on Olympic TV collapse

From Our Correspondent  
Geneva, Aug 13

Unless the organizing committee of next year's Olympic Games in Montreal changes its mind, it looks as though direct full television coverage of the games will be confined to North America and the Philippines.

The European Broadcasting Union (EBU) here said today that negotiations "have finally broken down".

This followed a visit to Montreal at the beginning of this month by Sir Charles Curran, in his capacity as president of the EBU, and officials from other broadcasting organizations.

The EBU announcement said their joint offer had been £9.3m (about £4.4m) but the Montreal committee was holding out for \$18m. "The gap was unbridgeable," it added.

## Peace formula agreed over 'Observer' redundancies

A peace formula was agreed last night between the management of The Observer and officials of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades over the redundancies dispute.

Details will be given to the union chapel (office branch) next week with a recommendation from chapel officers to accept.

It is understood that The Observer has agreed to reduce its requirement for a 30 per cent reduction in jobs. How big the cut is was not disclosed.

After a four-hour meeting with management, under the umbrella of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, Mr William Keys, the Sogat general secretary, said: "So far as Sogat is concerned there can be a paper this week-end and we are hoping there will be one."

Agreement with the union was regarded as the key to the dispute as Sogat had voiced the

strongest opposition to The Observer's proposals. The decision on Tuesday to withdraw 200 redundancy notices means that all Sogat members can be back at work before their meeting next week.

Talks between the management and the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsope) also took place on Tuesday but no agreement was issued. Officials of the National Graphical Association are due to meet the management again today.

Cuts rejected: The London Evening News editorial chapel (office branch) passed a resolution last night rejecting the management's plans for 12 journalistic redundancies. A chapel spokesman said: "We were told that there would be 400 redundancies overall, including 12 in the editorial department. The management said £1,250,000 has to be saved in less than a year."

## High-alumina cement homes get good news

Most homes containing high-alumina cement are structurally safe and need not be checked, the Government said yesterday after receiving a report on the material. Buildings of more than four storeys

and certain single-storey buildings, particularly schools, using the material have not been cleared, however, and the Government says they should be inspected by a qualified engineer. Page 2

## Rhodesia expects tough talks

Mr Ian Smith told Parliament in Salisbury that the opening at Victoria Falls of the proposed constitutional conference to settle the future of Rhodesia would be a formal affair last

ing perhaps half an hour. Tough negotiations are expected to take place in a committee stage afterwards, to be held inside Rhodesia. Page 4

## Accord nearer in Middle East

Dr Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, is preparing to leave for the Middle East next week in a final attempt to bring about a settlement between Israel and Egypt. Yesterday Egypt was optimistic that an accord could be achieved. Page 4

## Campaign to buy British

The Government is considering the possibility of starting an official advertising campaign to encourage industry and the public to buy British-made goods. This follows the crusade by Mr Peter Shore, Secretary for Trade, for greater import substitution. Page 19

## 'Gross perjury'

Continuing his summing-up in the Birmingham bomb trial, Mr Justice Bridge spoke of gross perjury by one side or the other. Some allegations of police brutality recalled Star Chamber methods. Page 3

## Threat to pubs

Six hundred public houses in the Midlands and 70 in south Wales are likely to be affected by a strike called by the National Association of Licensed House Managers because of a dispute with the Transport and General Workers' Union. Emergency talks are to take place today. Page 19

## £2.5m refused

The London borough of Bromley has refused to take up a £2.5m allocation for schools and colleges because of the cost of loan charges. Its education committee wants the Government to intervene. Page 2

## On other pages

Leader page 15  
Letters: On threat to MPs from party activists, from Mr Humphrey Berkeley; on suffering in Ethiopia from Mr William Lee and Mr Blair Thomson and Mr Asa Weston Awaie  
Leading articles: Private medicine; European communist parties and Portugal; Personal social service  
Features, pages 5 and 14  
Paul Foot claims the Government has led socialists down another blind alley; Patrick Gilkes on the revolution in Ethiopia a year after the military took over; Robert Fisk follows the short public life of terrorism  
Arts, page 12  
Irving Wurdale on The Merry Wives of Windsor (Stratford Festival); Alan Coren on Who Loves Ya, Baby? (BBC 1); Paul Moore on the film Festival  
Obituary, page 17  
Mr Pithus Sapir; Mr C. Kuper

## Books, page 16

Richard Davy reviews On Socialist Democracy by Roy Medvedev and To defend These Rights by Valery Chizdov; John Hume on The Companion Guide to Burgundy by Robert Speaight; Sport, pages 7-9  
Cricket: Prospects for third Test match; Yachting: Fastnet boats beamed; Racing: Prospects for three meetings  
Business News, pages 18-24  
Stock markets: Equities advanced again under the impetus of U-lev's half-year results. The FT index closed 4.5 up to 294.6. Glutted securities were quiet but firm  
Financial Editor: Unleash moving into the recovery phase: General Assembly's performance in the United States; Carrington's Vixie Business features: Peter Readman concludes his two-part article with institutions should provide long-term risk capital; Sue Bradford on Argentina running out of time, money and options

Home News	2, 3	Church	17	Obituary	17
European News	4	Court	17	Science	17
Overseas News	4, 5	Crossword	26	Sport	7-9
Appointments	17	Diary	14	TV & Radio	25
Arts	12	Engagements	17	Theatres, etc	12
Books	16	Features	6, 14	25 Years Ago	17
Business	18-24	Letters	15	Weather	2
Chess	2	Motoring	25	Wills	17

## It is a simple matter to acquire new offices - or is it?

? Is the building suitably located for our key staff?  
? Will the floor support our latest computer?  
? Are canteen facilities included?  
? Will the air conditioning allow maximum flexibility of partition layouts?  
? Are we paying too much?

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## S Wales

Cross perjury by the  
defenders or police,  
bomb trial judge says

John Charters  
continuing his summing-up of the forty-first day of the Birmingham public house bombing trial at Lancaster Crown Court, Mr Justice Bridge told the jury yesterday that "one of the other must have committed gross perjury in the evidence."  
He was commenting on the conflict between the evidence given by the defendants and the evidence given by the police officers who had been arrested in the aftermath of the bombing. He said that the evidence given by the defendants was "grossly inconsistent" with the evidence given by the police officers. He said that the evidence given by the defendants was "grossly inconsistent" with the evidence given by the police officers. He said that the evidence given by the defendants was "grossly inconsistent" with the evidence given by the police officers.

VT workers seek dock ban  
on foreign motor cycles

A Staff-Reporter  
The workers of the Norton Villiers motor cycle works in Birmingham are asking the Government to nationalize the motor cycle industry and to place a complete embargo on the import of motor cycles. They also want to see the works closed down for a year to allow the workers to breathe a little. The workers are asking the Government to nationalize the motor cycle industry and to place a complete embargo on the import of motor cycles. They also want to see the works closed down for a year to allow the workers to breathe a little. The workers are asking the Government to nationalize the motor cycle industry and to place a complete embargo on the import of motor cycles. They also want to see the works closed down for a year to allow the workers to breathe a little.

Sheriff's son  
killed from  
me by court

son of a former High Sheriff of Staffordshire was killed from his parents' car yesterday by a car driven by a man who was later found to be a member of the same family. The car was driven by a man who was later found to be a member of the same family. The car was driven by a man who was later found to be a member of the same family. The car was driven by a man who was later found to be a member of the same family. The car was driven by a man who was later found to be a member of the same family.

PQ1002 puts manufacturers'  
sales figures on your desk  
every quarter

118,137	
104,946	
42,423	
39,582	
28,675	
72,469	
24,231	
44,721	
137,355	
222,965	
45,983	
714,805	
11	

A new Business Monitor, PQ1002, provides early estimates of quarterly movements in the sales of virtually every sector of the UK manufacturing industry. The figures are collected by the Business Statistics Office from 30,000 businesses in 150 industries. By subscribing to PQ1002, you can have the quarterly sales figures for each of these industries on your desk within 13 weeks of the quarter covered. Annual subscription (including postage) is 52p. Send your remittance or quote your account No. to: HMSO (1.2), Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

More money  
'vital  
for social  
services'

By Our Social Services Correspondent  
More money must be made available for social services if the Government is to keep pace with the rising costs of the Personal Social Services Council makes clear today.  
Lord James of Rushmore, the chairman, says in his introduction: "A flood of legislation has imposed obligations and aroused expectations that even at the best of times would have been very difficult to meet. Yet the social services have a vital contribution to make, not least in a time of rapid social change and strained circumstances."  
The report shows that members of the council, set up in July 1973, to advise the Government on social services, have concluded that "the expectations of central government and the public have underestimated the resources needed. If additional funds are not provided, new demands created by legislation will be met only at the expense of existing services."  
But the report also indicates that the strains on existing services are already so great that little can be done to fulfil the aim of the reorganized social services to prevent need from arising.  
Resources and energies in the personal social services are mainly devoted to remedial work, the report says. "Yet the only rational development would be the adoption of strategies that are preventive if successive generations are not to encounter identical and accumulating problems of deprivation and need."

council now expects to begin promotion and advocacy for the social services to help such developments to take place. Its first two years have been devoted mainly to seeking information and starting research. The council believes that one of the greatest difficulties facing the social services is in reaching the public. Real progress has been made in some services since reorganization, the council says. But there is still an imperfect understanding by the public of the scope of the personal social services. People appear to need a simple description of the services, but every attempt to clarify them increases demand at a time when resources cannot be increased.  
Report of the Personal Social Services Council (Brook House, 2-16 Torrington Place, London, WC1E 7HN, 15p a section).  
Leading article, page 15

Complaint about 'Express'  
upheld by Press Council

Insufficient publicity was given to correcting a misstatement in a news story about a football club and it lacked an apology, the Press Council says in an adjudication issued yesterday.  
Oxford United Football Club complained that the Daily Express published a report that was untrue and damaging to the club and personally damaging to the directors. Further, that although an apology was asked for, none was received and that when a retraction was published it was given insufficient prominence and included no apology.  
The newspaper published an article headed Oxford crisis as FA step in, by David Miller, which said that the FA was to inquire into the club's affairs. It said that Sir Andrew Stephen, chairman of the FA, had confirmed the previous night that written evidence from the public was enough to require a commission.  
The same day, Mr A. E. R. Rosser, chairman of the club, wrote to the editor saying that inquiries made that day of Mr Croker, secretary of the FA, and Mr Hardaker, secretary of the Football League, had brought denials of the report and, according to the Oxford Mail that day, Sir Andrew Stephen had also denied all knowledge of a commission.  
The story, Mr Rosser said, was clearly most damaging to the club and members of the board who had been named in it. He therefore asked for the publication of correction and full apology with equal prominence in the next issue.  
The next day the newspaper published, also on the back (sports) page, an item that read: "The FA have not appointed a commission to investigate the affairs of Oxford United, the FA and the club stated yesterday. Complaints received from the club's shareholders' association were discussed by the FA in committee before the last meeting of the council, but no action was taken. FA Secretary, Ted Croker, said yesterday: 'We have written to the shareholders' letter and that's as far as it has gone.'"  
Mr Alastair Burnet, the editor, told the Press Council that when Mr Miller wrote the report he had every reason for supposing it to be true. He learnt the next day that there had been some misunderstanding. Accordingly the newspaper published a straightforward correction.  
Later he received Mr Rosser's letter but as the paper had already corrected the original report he did not feel that any further action was necessary.  
The Press Council's adjudication was: This correction of what was a completely untrue story was not given sufficient publicity to attract the notice of readers who may have read the article. Nor did it include any apology. The complaint against the Daily Express is upheld.

Tories will fight to keep  
NHS pay beds 'all the way'

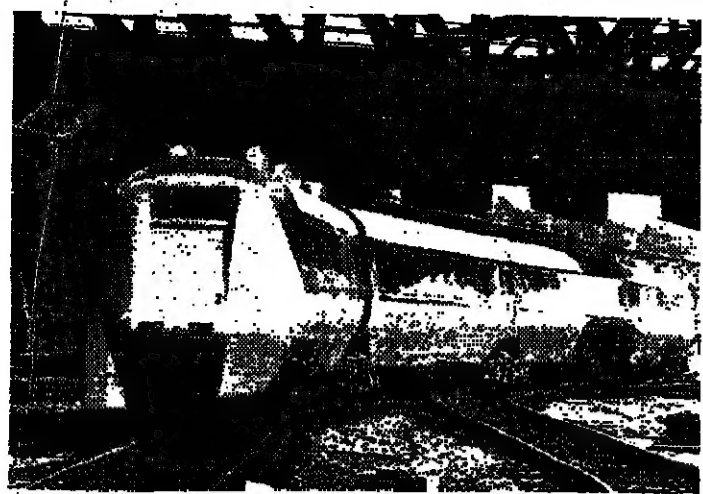
By Our Parliamentary Staff  
The Conservatives will fight all the way against plans to abolish paybeds in National Health Service hospitals, Mr Norman Fowler, MP for Sutton Coldfield, Opposition spokesman on social services, said yesterday.  
The policies of Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, made no sense in the present economic crisis and struck against the interests of the NHS, he told an audience in his constituency.  
"As precisely the moment the NHS needs every pound it can lay its hands on, Mrs Castle throws away between £30m and £40m a year in lost income from paybeds and the cost of making up consultants' salaries."  
The new policy would force more hospital doctors to go overseas.  
"Mrs Castle is obstinately pursuing a policy opposed by the overwhelming majority of the medical profession," Mr Fowler said. "Perhaps her present policy will win her the applause of the left wing but they will do nothing to tackle the problems of the NHS."  
Leading article, page 15

## Decentralization 'is feared'

Labour Party fears that a Scottish assembly could be used by the Scottish National Party to wreck the United Kingdom revealed the shallowness of Labour's commitment to such an assembly Mr Alex Fletcher, Conservative MP for Edinburgh North, said in his constituency yesterday. An assembly would make sense regardless of the SNP. The devolution debate seemed

British Rail would resist move against new technology  
Economies threaten advanced train

By Michael Bailey  
Will British Rail's advanced passenger train (APT), which last week achieved a new record of more than 150 mph during speed trials over the Western Region main line near Swindon, fall victim to government pressure for large-scale railway economies?  
Brilliant though it is technically, with its revolutionary suspension and lightweight tilting body, the APT is widely regarded as an expensive luxury for a railway losing over £400m a year and being forced to reduce existing operations to try to contain the burden on the taxpayer.  
British Rail is already spending £26m on bringing three prototype APTs into service on the London-Glasgow line in 1977-78. It is also spending £10m to build 30 to 40 more for regular service shortly after at a cost of about £1.5m a set, half as much again as a conventional train.  
The APT has always had its enemies even within British Rail and among the generally pro-railway environmental lobby, which says that the drive for higher speed is far less important than spending available funds on getting a reliable conventional rail network at present speeds. Their view is reinforced by the fuel crisis, since higher speeds normally need much more energy. The APT was born from its inception in 1968, largely because it was such a break with conventional railway technology and was evolved largely by bright young "outsiders" brought into the railway research centre at Derby from the aerospace and other industries. That view has also been reinforced by the fact that the APT



The advanced passenger train, which has clocked 150 mph.

will now operate initially only at 125 mph because the BR board will not for the present contemplate the extra investment in track, signalling, etc. to operate at its designed speed of 155 mph.  
Moreover, the much more conventional high-speed train (HST) developed largely by railway engineers over the past five years, can operate at 125 mph (it has actually done 143 mph) and is already giving excellent service on the London to Bristol run. Why not axe the APT with an immediate saving of perhaps £15m (about half the £26m has already been spent or committed) and press ahead with the proved HST?  
Two years ago a government order to that effect would probably have produced only muted squeals from BR, but now any pressure to kill it off would be strongly resisted.  
The logic is that the HST and APT are not competitive but complementary and that the

Council spurns £2.5m  
education allocation

By Our Education Correspondent  
The London borough of Bromley has decided not to take up a £2.5m allocation for schools and colleges because of the expenses it would incur in loan charges. Its education committee is appealing to Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to intervene and force it to change its mind.  
Mr Keith Pawsey, chairman of the committee, said: "This decision will lead to a first-class row. There is a real fear that we will not be able to provide roofs over the heads of children who want to come to our schools."  
The council decided by the casting vote of the mayor on Monday night not to take up the outstanding capital allocations for the financial year 1974-75. According to Mr Pawsey, that will prevent vital extensions to two schools from being built and cause the postponement of a sixth-form block and other projects.  
The National Union of Teachers yesterday accused the education committee of improperly allocating revenue resources. It said £58,000 had been cut from the resources for schools while the same amount of money was being spent on sending children to direct grant and independent schools.  
Mr Leonard Heavey, the union's branch secretary, said: "There will be fewer teachers, larger classes and less money for stationery, books and the other basic essentials, yet the sacred cow of places at direct grant and independent schools remains unscathed. The union was considering legal action."  
Mr Pawsey said: "When the alternative costs of educating the 175 children concerned in the state system are taken into account, the extra cost to the authority is £45,000. By spending this sum we are able to satisfy the wishes of many parents of children in high-ability hands."

Birmingham picket-line  
journalists fined

From Arthur Osman  
Birmingham  
Ten journalists who were arrested after a picketing incident outside The Birmingham Post and Evening Mail offices last week were fined by the Birmingham stipendiary magistrate yesterday and bound over to keep the peace for 12 months. They, and 241 other members of the National Union of Journalists, had been dismissed by the company in a dispute which began early last month.  
Mr Giles Peppercorn, appearing on their behalf, remarked that they were regarded as strikers and were therefore denied social security benefits. "They are only getting social security for the financial year 1974-75. He accused the newspaper management of using 'strike-breaking' lorry drivers who were well rewarded for their efforts" for breaking the picket line.  
David Train, John Scott, Mark Sharman and Victor Walsling, pleaded guilty to obstructing the highway and were fined £10 each. Terence Grimley, Robert Haywood, Anthony Fisher, Ian Walker, Geoffrey Ward, and Roland Rowley, admitted using threatening, abusive and insulting words likely to cause a breach of the peace and were fined £20 each.  
Mr Christopher Jones, for the prosecution, said picketing had been carried out peacefully until last Friday, when there

Suicide attempt  
boy must stay  
in remand centre

Legal moves to free a boy aged 15 from an adult remand centre, where violence from other prisoners is said to have driven him to attempt suicide, were rejected by a High Court judge in London yesterday.  
The boy is accused of indecency involving two girls aged nine. He is being held at Risley remand centre, near Warrington, because he was said to be too unruly for a local authority home.  
When he appeared at a juvenile court at Stockport, Manchester, last Friday, Mr John Seal, his solicitor, said the boy had been beaten up daily and had his back scored with sharpened combs by other men sitting behind him in church. He had tried to hang himself.



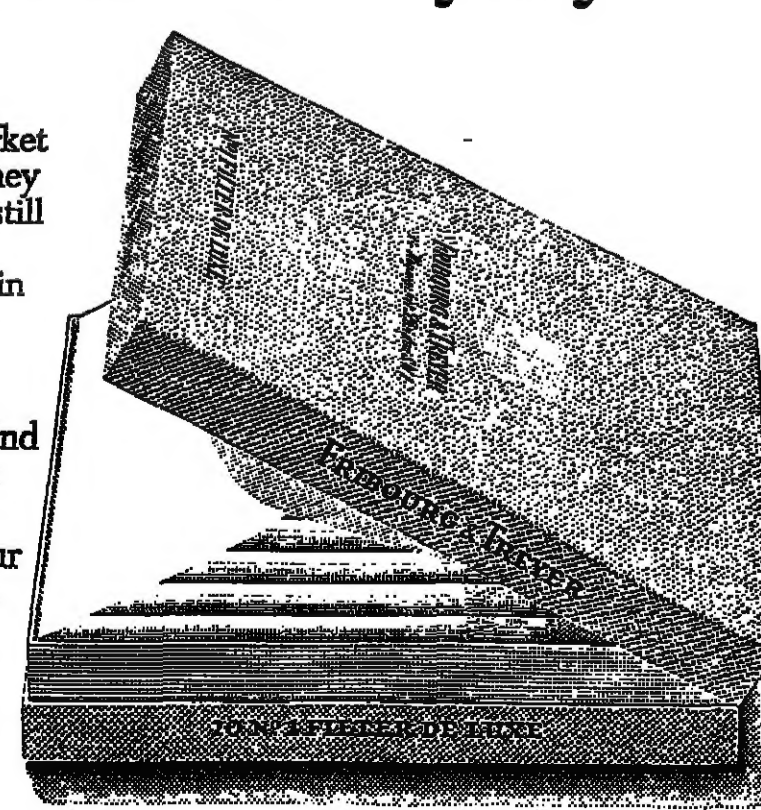
For 250 years our clients have  
been coming to us. We can no longer  
presume on such loyalty.

The first clients of the Haymarket shop usually walked there. Later they might arrive by sedan chair. Later still it was by hansom cab or taxi.

Recent technological progress in transportation has been such that today many of our clients are walking again.

You have to go a long way to find a snuff shop as old as ours. But you should not have to do so on foot. Particularly if all you require is your regular box of No 1 Filter de Luxe.

We have, in consequence, arranged for these cigarettes to be available in other select outlets around London.



55p for 20 Recommended price. If you so wish, No 1 Filter de Luxe are available at £5.80 for 200 including post & packing from 34 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4HR.



MIDDLE TAR  
Manufacturer's estimate, October 1974, of group as defined in H.M. Government Tables  
EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING



## WEST EUROPE

# French Socialists' leader insists that the Communists must admit their mistakes in Portugal

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, Aug. 13

M. François Mitterrand, leader of the French Socialists, today stayed away from talks between his own party and the Communists, aimed at working out a joint position on the situation in Portugal.

In a letter written after consulting Dr. Mario Soares, the Portuguese Socialist leader, he told the Communists they must accept that "errors of judgment by the Portuguese Communist Party leadership have contributed in large measure to the course of events which we now deplore".

The letter was delivered by M. Mitterrand's lieutenants when they joined Communist representatives at the meeting which went on most of the day. It was proposed hurriedly by M. Georges Marchais, secretary-general of the Communist Party, to help his Portuguese colleagues after violent incidents in northern Portugal.

M. Mitterrand today seized the initiative, exploiting the Communists' growing isolation from the man in the street in France. He stated that his party's price for joining the Communist appeal for a public campaign to aid Portugal was agreement on some "clear principles", the

first of which must be support for a government of unity in Lisbon.

He said he was well aware that his party's analysis of the Portuguese situation differed from the Communists'. The errors committed by Portugal's Communists, however, "must be understood, without any self-clamancy, if one wants to prepare the ground for the reconciliation, now necessary, if the Portuguese revolution is to continue".

M. Mitterrand, who is staying pointedly at his holiday home in south-west France, listed the Portuguese Communists' chief blunders, including the refusal to sign a common programme with the Socialists; the taking of the exorbitant pretension to run them without any popular mandate; the unconditional backing of an executive which represented only a minority; and "disdain" for universal suffrage.

On all these points, the French Socialist Party wants to make clear its total disagreement," he wrote in his letter. He condemned the anti-Communist "witch-hunt" in northern Portugal, but added that all the forces that had brought about the revolution needed to

"take greater account of the risks sectarianism and power hunger provoked inevitably."

At the end of today's meeting, the Socialists, Communists and Radicals, the third signatories of the left's electoral alliance, said in a joint statement that it was up to all the forces that had made Portugal's revolution to "stop any return now of fascism".

The three agreed on the formula that Portugal's Government must be based on the largest possible popular will, expressed democratically. The formula made it clear that neither the Communists nor the Socialists had budged in the talks.

The French Socialists are obviously anxious not to do anything to upset Dr. Soares's strategy by embracing the French Communists. Dr. Soares, speaking on Monte Carlo radio last night, emphasized that Portugal's Communists were still refusing to make genuine overtures to his party.

M. Mitterrand, however, emphasized the importance of a common programme. He reaffirmed the existing basic structure with the French Communist Party, in spite of ideological arguments. Leading article, page 15



Struck by lightning: The Sansovino statue of Christ, standing above the east door of the Baptistery in Florence, whose right arm was broken off during a thunderstorm on Tuesday night. The sixteenth-century masterpiece will be difficult to repair as tourists have stolen some broken-off pieces.

## 4,000 Angola whites reach safety in S-W Africa

Oshakati, South-West Africa, Aug. 13—Some 4,000 white refugees from Angola arrived here during the night in a convoy of about 700 vehicles. Another convoy of some 1,300 refugees is believed to be on the way, and the South African authorities are flying in emergency food, tents and welfare officials to cope.

Mr. H. J. van Vuuren, the district welfare secretary, said that an existing refugee camp south of Oshakati would be enlarged as would a camp near Pretoria, in South Africa.

Refugees who arrived here said they had been escorted by Portuguese troops and soldiers of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, who had opened a "corridor" for them to the southern border from south of the town Sa da Bandeira.

There were isolated reports of clashes on the trip between Movement men and troops of two rival groups, the National Union for total independence of Angola (Unita) and the National Front for the Liberation of Angola.

Conditions in refugee camps in southern Angola are becoming desperate, according to the refugees. At the town of Nova Lisboa 30,000 people are waiting to leave the country and the shortage of food, water and fuel is becoming daily more acute. —Agence France Presse.

Kinshasa: Mr. Luis Ranque Franck, president of the Front for the Liberation of Cabinda, who claimed independence for the enclave on August 1, has named a 17-member Government, according to the Zaire news agency Azap.

Darwin: Mr. Jose Ramos Horta, leader of the Fretilin political movement on Portuguese Timor, said here today that the island was moving towards bloodshed. He said the demand by the rival Timor Democratic Union for the colony and the jailing of anti-Fretilin leaders was a "desperate action" which would lead to inevitable confrontation.

## Prelate accused of aiming at civil war

Rome, Aug. 13—The Italian Communist Party newspaper, L'Unita today launched a virulent attack on the Archbishop of Braga, Don Francisco Maria da Silva, accusing him of "pushing Portugal towards the abyss of civil war".

In a leading article L'Unita said: "The call for an anti-Communist crusade launched by Archbishop da Silva, who called the Communists 'enemies of God' and thus incited the attack on, and burning of, the Portuguese Communist Party's headquarters in Braga, is very serious and inadmissible."

"He was a member of the old ecclesiastical hierarchy which until a few years ago exalted the fascist Salazar regime, blessed the banners of troops going to fight the colonial wars, and censured and deformed encyclicals which were the same man who wrote the funeral eulogy for the dictator Salazar." The Archbishop, who is 65, had been forced to strip before customs officials while on his way to an ecclesiastical congress in Brazil last month. —Reuter.

## Spanish police claim arrest of gun battle fugitive

From Harry Debellus  
Madrid, Aug. 13  
The Spanish police today arrested a suspected Basque activist who, they said, escaped after a gun battle yesterday in the village of Derio, near Bilbao. The man, Angel Maria Arreola, is said to have taken part in an attempt to blow up a road outside Bilbao last week. Four other suspects are being sought.

A Barcelona journalist arrested last month on charges of "insulting the military" in an article he wrote for a local newspaper has been put into solitary confinement in the same prison as the assassin of Admiral Carrero Blanco.

Señor José María Huertas Clavería has been accused of collaborating with Wilson, three papers, *Tele Express*, *Mundo Diario* and *Diario de Barcelona*, held stoppages for half an hour in sympathy with him.

Information obtained after Wilson was arrested is believed to have led to the arrest of several alleged activists. Informed sources say that Wilson was wounded in the upper right part of the head by a shot at the time of his capture.

Several of the priests who have been in solitary confinement in Madrid are expected to be released this week. A priest was arrested in Orense yesterday afternoon. His arrest is believed to be connected with the distribution of leaflets protesting at the detention of a neighbour.

The Falangist daily *Arriba* claimed today that Japanese terrorists had crossed into Spain from France, possibly to stage a spectacular plot to free country's dissidents. According to *Arriba*, nine men and four women terrorists may be plotting the kind of operation they carried out in Kuala Lumpur. The police said, however, that they had no knowledge of such a plot. Brief fame of a terrorist, page 14

## OVERSEAS

## Victoria Falls opening meeting expected to last half an hour

From Frederick Cleary  
Salisbury, Aug. 13

Mr. Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, told Parliament today that the opening session of the constitutional conference, on the railway bridge at the Victoria Falls, would be little more than a signing ceremony lasting perhaps half an hour. After this formal meeting, negotiations would take place, inside Rhodesia, in line with his previous statements, that they could not be held elsewhere.

Mr. Smith was asked by a Government backbencher how long the conference would last. He replied: "In the discussion which took place last week in Pretoria, this question was brought up, and it was generally conceded that it was difficult to envisage this taking more than half an hour in view of the fact that it was little more than a signing ceremony of an agreement that we should settle our constitutional difficulties by talking."

Mr. Smith was asked whether he would secure a general amnesty so that the rank and file of the African National Council (ANC) and its leaders could get together. He replied that the question was not raised in Pretoria with Mr. John Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, and an amiable agreement had been accepted by all parties. He did not elaborate, but the clear inference was that the ANC leaders, who would normally risk detention if they crossed back into Rhodesian territory, would enjoy immunity if included in the official membership of the national constitutional delegation.

Mr. Smith said that group appeared to be divided, with the body resident in Rhodesia and the head in Zambia. He hoped that in the interests of the country the ANC would get together in order to get some cohesion.

An official date for the conference has not been announced, but sources close to the Administration indicate that it could be between August 21 and 25, and certainly not later than August 25, as indicated in the official statement on Tuesday.

The overall plan of the conference now appears to be for the initial brief, constitutional meeting, attended by Mr. Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and his ANC team on the one side, and the representatives of the other sides would declare their intent of having a conference and possibly outline in general their respective objectives and then, after the public signing of documents in the railway coach, the respective committees or committees would be appointed to go into the heart of the matter.

It is estimated that the committee would make preliminary proposals to Rhodesia involving tough negotiations, assuming that the exercise does not get bogged down or break up in disagreement. The final ratification conference, involving the British, will possibly occur, government spokesmen said, at a venue yet to be decided.

Rumour that Mr. Isaac Maseko, the brilliant Johannesburg lawyer, who defended the Rhodesian government in his detention trial in Salisbury this year, has been approached to act as legal adviser was not confirmed today. But it is known that he has been contacted recently by the ANC.

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A report appearing in the *Rhodesian Herald* today asserting that guerrilla incursions into Rhodesia were part of the pre-conference agreement were denied today by ANC officials. They said that it had been agreed that there would be no preconditions for the talks, and that the Rhodesian *Herald* report that the ceasefire had been accepted by the participants, and that the black African presidents would see that it was enforced.

Although Mr. Vorster, speaker of the conference today, said something to which he had long been holding forward, he said in Lusaka: "What do you think I have been crying for for all these years?"

## Third sale of grain by Canada to Russia

Winnipeg, Aug. 13—Canada today announced the sale of 200,000 tonnes of grain to the Soviet Union. Previously Canada had announced the sale of two million tonnes of wheat on July 27 and of one million tonnes on July 24.

Today's deal, negotiated with the Soviet Grain Trading Corporation, comprised 750,000 tonnes of wheat and 50,000 tonnes of feed oats, the Canadian Wheat Board said. Delivery is due to be completed before the end of October. Monetary terms of the deal were not made public. —Reuter.

## Drug experiment killed man, US Army says

From Our Correspondent  
New York, Aug. 13

The United States Army has said that the death of a patient in the New York State Psychiatric Institute in 1953, was the result of a series of experiments with mind-affecting drugs.

The patient, Mr. Harold Blauer, who was a tennis professional, was being treated for depression. The army yesterday reported that four injections of a mescaline derivative had produced "haze or no effect".

The last test, which was made the day before Mr. Blauer was to be released, resulted in the patient's death two and a half hours later. Mr. Blauer was 40 years old, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, and was being treated by the institute that he had died in the course of the treatment he had received.

The first known fatality of the extensive programme of experiments which the Army conducted in the 1950s to determine "the clinical effects of psychochemical agents on the psychiatric behaviour of subjects".

In another incident this week a group of senior East African Community officials who were about to return to Tanzania, were told they were illegally in Kenya and were detained at a police station for some 90 minutes. But the "widely publicised" affair provides strong evidence of the restoration of confidence.

However, there are some encouraging signs. A formula recently agreed between the three East African central banks seems to have solved, at least for the present, the problems of lack of cash caused by delays in currency transfers between the offices of different Community bodies, particularly the railways, post office and airways, in the three countries.

According to the latest reports, these currency transfers are being carried out promptly, and it is thought that there should be no repetition of past delays in paying the salaries of Community staffs.

The Kenyan authorities confirmed today that more than 600 people were rounded up in a weekend check on aliens in different parts of the country. As a result, 39 had been declared prohibited immigrants, and ordered to leave Kenya. Most of it is understood did not have valid entry permits.

Meanwhile, the United States Embassy in Nairobi has been protesting to the Kenyan Foreign Ministry over the way some Americans were handled during the checks. Earlier representations had been made to the ministry by the British and German representatives in Nairobi.

## Nixon archives subject to legal battle

From Our Own Correspondent  
Washington, Aug. 13

The special Senate committee on the Central Intelligence Agency heard its last witness yesterday, and adjourned for the next few weeks. In last act was the subpoenaing of the collection of Mr. Richard Nixon's collection, which might throw light on American involvement in the coup in Chile in 1973.

The problem with the Nixon archives is that their ownership is the subject of a court suit brought by the former President against the Government. Congress passed a law, which Mr. Ford signed, taking tapes and papers alike into public ownership, and Mr. Nixon's lawyers, citing precedents going back to George Washington, claim that the collection is unconstitutional.

President Ford, who still holds the Nixon papers through the General Services Administration, cannot hand them over to the Senate until the case is resolved. Mr. Nixon, wife, of course, Senator Church, would have to subpoena him.

## Boston youths injure nine

From Our Correspondent  
New York, Aug. 13

Nine people were injured when several hundred youths attacked motorists passing through two public housing estates in Boston yesterday. A doctor, who was pulled from his vehicle near Boston City Hospital and beaten up, was reported to be on the danger list with multiple injuries.

Most of the participants were black teenagers.

## Internal wrangles threaten East African Community

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Aug. 13

Strains in the relations between the three members of the East African Community—Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda—have increased greatly in the past few weeks and there is general pessimism about the prospect for an end to the tension.

Tanzania repeated its long-standing opposition to the Ugandan military regime by refusing to attend the Organisation of African Unity summit meeting in Kampala two weeks ago. It also refused to accept the former Tanzanian Foreign Minister, who has been campaigning against President Nyerere from exile for the last eight years, was invited to the summit by President Amin.

With relations between Kenya and Tanzania difficult for many months, 300 Tanzanians arrived this week in Tanga and said they had been ordered to leave their homes and jobs in the Kenya port of Mombasa.

No precise explanation of their expulsion has been given, but it is said that they were caught on a check on aliens in Kenya, where a law was introduced last year requiring all non-Kenyans (including nationals of the other states of the East African Community) to register with the authorities.

This kind of uncertainty fostered by a lack of information on the real reasons for such incidents, makes other Tanzanians and Ugandans apprehensive, and helps to undermine the already low morale among many of the staff of the East African Community.

## Israel ready to give ground

From Patrick Brogan  
Washington, Aug. 13

The scene is set for Dr. Kissinger, the Secretary of State, to return to shuttle diplomacy next week. He is said to be thinking of leaving Washington on Tuesday or Wednesday and to be ready to return to the Middle East to spend as long as necessary in negotiating with the Egyptians and Israelis on a new disengagement agreement.

The number of times he will have to fly from Alexandria to Jerusalem will depend on the difficulties. But the chances are that this exercise will last a much shorter time than earlier ones.

He has apparently decided that most problems must be solved in advance, so that final success is as nearly assured as possible, and that there should be no repetition of his failure last March.

The important group of Israeli officials in Washington continues to hold consultations with the Americans, who in turn remain in constant touch with the Egyptians. Dr. Kissinger, who is said to be in the Israeli Prime Minister's Office, and Mr. Meir Rosens, chief legal adviser to the Foreign Minister.

The Israelis have evidently made up their minds to give up the Sinai. The final dispute is therefore over lines to be drawn in the sand to define the Egyptian and Israeli zones.

Dr. Kissinger's return from Tel Aviv: The ministerial team negotiating an interim agreement with Egypt considered Cairo's reply to Israel's latest proposal this afternoon and decided it was not acceptable to be desired. A spokesman said, however, that the reply "narrowed the issues to a degree", but he refused to give details.

Dr. Kissinger asked Mr. Dinur to seek further clarifications in Washington. The negotiating team, comprising the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs, decided that the development did not warrant convening the full Cabinet before the regular meeting on Sunday.

The clarifications, the Israelis are seeking concern "geographical details of a second stage Israeli withdrawal in Sinai and political and economic compensation from the United States."

Commentators noted that the Egyptian position had been made unacceptably optimistic. They said Cairo apparently wanted Dr. Kissinger to start his mission because they assumed that once he did the Israelis could not allow him to fail again and would have to yield to Egypt's terms.

Paul Hackett, from Beirut, said that the Israelis had been involved in a new public row with the Soviet Union over his readiness to throw his weight behind the American sponsored peace efforts.

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# VERSEAS

## Witness calls junta's interrogation 'Greek Dachau'

**in Mario Modiano**  
Athens, Aug 13

Professor Demetrios Tsatsos, member of Parliament, gave evidence at the Athens trial today, compared EAT-ESA, the junta's special interrogation section of the military, to a Nazi concentration camp. He said: "During four months in 1973 I was an inmate of this contemporary Greek 'Dachau'."

Professor Tsatsos, who, at the time he was arrested, was a law lecturer in German universities, said he was arrested after he had written a letter, which had been intercepted, relating details of the tortures inflicted at EAT-ESA. In his letter he was urging contacts to give maximum publicity to these disclosures.

He had been brought before the 31 defendants accused of ruling political prisoners, told him: "Here human rights are not respected. Everything is done to you. You are being punished, insulted, and degraded. Only the constant parts of a system of degradation employed at EAT-ESA."

Because of the interest shown by his German friends, Professor Tsatsos went on, he had been treated less harshly than other prisoners. He had been allowed to see through a crack in the door of his cell a friend who had been with him when he had heard the means of his arrest in neighbouring cells. He had been told that he was being taken to a Greek camp, and that he was being taken to a Greek camp, and that he was being taken to a Greek camp.

## Seaman vanishes in Iraq

**in Our Correspondent**  
Baghdad, Aug 13

The Foreign Ministry is ignoring the fate of Mr. Jim Cohen, a Greek Jew, who disappeared in Iraq. Mr. Cohen, the wireless operator on a Greek cargo ship, is said to have been detained as soon as he went ashore in Basra on July 29.

The manner of the ship Kiri, 9,400 tons, reported that Mr. Cohen had been asked for a passport officer in the port to follow him and had since vanished. This officer said later that Mr. Cohen had been taken to the police.

## Mrs Gandhi accuses the Western press

**Delhi, Aug 13.**—Mrs Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has accused the Western press and other foreign mass media of spreading "most slanderous and malicious" reports against India.

In an interview with her ruling Congress Party's official weekly, *Socialist India*, Mrs Gandhi said she was "amused by the sudden love for democracy finding expression in the West and among much of our intelligentsia which is Western oriented."

"Have they forgotten how we were treated long before the emergency? I have warned of foreign interference. Our doubts and fears are confirmed by the behaviour of important sections of the Western press, television and radio. The most slanderous and malicious news stories are appearing."

She made a specific charge against the BBC of broadcasting one-sided and incorrect information.

On the internal situation, she made it clear that the Congress Party had no intention of enforcing one-party rule. "Nor is it true that all opposition has been gagged, even now."

Referring to the situation before the emergency was declared last June, Mrs Gandhi said: "Democracy cannot exist if only the Government is expected to act democratically while the opposition behaves undemocratically and unconstitutionally. This is what was happening."

The Government has admitted for the first time that isolated groups have attempted to stir up trouble in some areas of India since the state of emergency was proclaimed.

An official communiqué issued last night said that opposition groups which did not belong to the pro-Soviet Indian Communist Party tried to launch strikes last weekend in the states of Orissa and Bihar in north-east India. Strikes are prohibited under the state of emergency.

The communiqué said the population did not obey the strike call and that the country was quiet. Reports from unofficial sources throughout India confirm that the situation is calm in all areas including Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, the only two states whose governments are not controlled by the Congress Party.

In Calcutta the majority and the opposition have started a graffiti campaign, but the slogans are nearly three to one in favour of Mrs Gandhi. —Agence France Press.



Mr Steve Campbell and Mr Jim Harrel, civilian technicians with the United States military communications unit in Asmara, Ethiopia, seen with guards somewhere in Eritrea after their capture last month by Eritrean Liberation Front rebels.

## China plans more active regional role for Burma

**From Our Correspondent**  
Hongkong, Aug 13

China will strongly encourage Burma to join the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), a leading representative of the Chinese Communist Party establishment in Hongkong said privately today.

He was not speaking officially — "sourced" party statements in Hongkong are restricted to publication in the communist press — but his authoritative comment significantly coincided with the present "friendly exchanges" in Peking between Mr Chiao Kuan-hua, the Chinese Foreign Minister, and U Hia Phone, the Burmese Foreign Minister, who is visiting China.

Burma, always emphasising its complete neutrality, has held aloof from Asean, which groups Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

It is believed, however, that the transformation of South-East Asia, after the American retreat from Vietnam and the expected phasing out of the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation (Seato), will now bring Burma into Asean.

**Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.**

Peking's support for Asean is believed to be motivated by the growing Soviet presence in the area.

Burma's approach to China will also raise the delicate issue of opium growing and drug running by the insurgent tribesmen on the Sino-Burmese border. Despite China's ban on drug trafficking, the People's Liberation Army units along the border do not interfere with the opium operations of the China-supported Burmese Communist Party in the "golden triangle" (which includes also northern Laos and Thailand).

## Uganda to send jobless to work on farms

**From Our Correspondent**  
Nairobi, Aug 13

President Amin of Uganda has issued a decree providing for the establishment of "community farm settlements", to which any unemployed able-bodied person, aged 18 to 50, may be sent.

The staff of the new settlements will be paid partly by Government grants and partly from the proceeds of crops sold. The remaining proceeds will be divided among the members of each settlement. Anyone who ignores an order to live and work on a farm settlement may be fined or jailed for up to three months.

The decree is a move to implement proposals that unemployed people in the towns should be sent back to the land. As in other parts of Africa, town life attracts many people who cannot hope to find jobs there. Somewhat similar action has been taken in Tanzania.

## First Saigon refugees arrive in Paris

**From Our Own Correspondent**  
Paris, Aug 13

Forty-five French nationals arrived today from Bangkok, the first of an airlift which is to repatriate about 6,000 French citizens from South Vietnam over the next two and a half months. There will be five flights a week to bring out those permitted to leave.

Today's batch had waited anxiously unable to leave the country since April 30. The number of French nationals in South Vietnam is now estimated at 8,000, the majority Eurasians.

M. Jean-Marie Merillon, France's former ambassador to Saigon, who met those arriving at Roissy airport, said today that their repatriation was "an important step in the normalization of relations between France and South Vietnam."

Immediately after the fall of the Thieu regime the French Government urged its nationals to stay in South Vietnam in the hope of maintaining a privileged political and trading status with the new communist regime in the former French colony. But the new South Vietnamese authorities have put difficulties in the way of foreigners during the past three months.

The repatriation agreement, reached after 10 weeks of negotiations between the French embassy and Saigon's military command, apparently includes an obligation on the French to

evacuate Saigon's other foreign "undesirables". The French Government is paying the cost of bringing the refugees to Europe.

A French solicitor who had formerly owned ricefields said that the Saigon military had granted exit visas only after lengthy checks to see that applicants had paid their taxes. The majority of those arriving today had left everything behind them and several had been living with assistance from the French Embassy.

Among those now staying behind are said to be the representatives of French firms.

The Government is anxious to negotiate its future status with the Saigon regime, particularly to try to avoid a repetition of the loss of substantial assets, as happened in North Vietnam after 1954. French investment in South Vietnam was estimated at 1,000 million francs (about £109m) in 1973, with important stakes in rubber plantations, commercial vehicles, banks, and transport. The French-owned rubber plantations, which formerly handled 90 per cent of South Vietnam's production, are now reported to be occupied by "people's committees".

Bangkok, Aug 13.—Saigon airport authorities today refused landing permission to a chartered Royal Air Lao Caravelle sent by France to airlift foreigners, airline officials said. They did not know the reason for the refusal.—Reuters.

## North and South Vietnam attack American UN veto

**Hanoi, Aug 13.**—The North Vietnamese Foreign Ministry called the American veto on the admission of North and South Vietnam to the United Nations a "political defeat for the United States" in a communiqué issued last night.

"By preventing a peace-loving nation which recovered its independence and sovereignty after long years of fighting from entering the United Nations, the United States acted entirely against the spirit and letter of the United Nations Charter as well as against the general tendency of the majority of the countries in the world," the communiqué said.

It said that the people and the Government of North Vietnam intended to contribute their part to maintaining peace and international security as well as to the struggle of peoples for independence, democracy and social progress. —Agence France Press.

Washington said today that the United States had acted maliciously in vetoing its admission to the United Nations. A Foreign Ministry statement quoted by Saigon radio said that the American action showed that the "United States still harbours an attitude of rancour against the population of Vietnam" at a time when North and South Vietnam were continuing their policies of establishing friendship with all countries.

Bangkok, Aug 13.—Two Khmer Rouge leaders, believed to belong to a pro-Vietnamese faction, have been named as deputy Prime Ministers of the Royal Cambodian Government of National Union, according to a broadcast by radio Phnom Penh monitored today.

The new ministers are Mr Ieng Sary, who will concentrate on foreign affairs and Mr Son Sen, chief of staff of the Khmer Rouge forces, who will be concerned with defence.—Agence France Press.

## Chile court orders reports on 119 missing leftists

**From Our Correspondent**  
Santiago, Aug 13

The Chilean Supreme Court of Justice has ordered all of the country's criminal courts to give progress reports on cases concerning the 119 missing members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) who, according to foreign press reports last week, are believed to have been killed abroad after having been arrested by the Chilean police.

The courts will have to present reports every 10 days to the Supreme Court about their investigations, Señor José María Eyzaguirre, president of the Supreme Court, told me.

A wave of conjecture has swept across Chile regarding the fate of these 119 people whose families say they have heard nothing from them, or of them, since they were arrested. The speculation began after the publication of the foreign press reports which said that some of the Chileans had become guerrillas and had died fighting the police in Argentina. According to one report, Chileans were killed in Europe during clashes between leftist guerrillas.

The accuracy of these reports was questioned during an interview I had with the Rev. Helmut Frenz, the Lutheran bishop who is president of the Committee of Cooperation for Peace. Last November, he was awarded the Nansen medal by the United Nations for his efforts in defence of human rights in Chile.

He pointed out that an Argentine magazine which carried the

reports did not appear again after its first edition. He said also that nothing was known of a Brazilian publication which published the reports.

I asked him what figures the peace committee has on people who have disappeared in Chile since General Pinochet's coup in September, 1973, whose relatives cannot locate them.

He said the committee had collected statements from the families of 924 people who had been arrested between September 11, 1973, and now.

"This figure refers only to Santiago," he said.

"Apart from those arrested who have disappeared, there are more than 4,000 who are in detention camps, jails and penitentiaries, either under arrest under regulations imposed because of the state of siege, or accused or condemned by military justice in the time of war."

I asked the bishop how many detention camps there were in Chile, and whether it was true that there had been hunger strikes in some of them.

He said the camps were for people who were under arrest without charges having been made against them or judicial proceedings initiated.

There were four main camps. Prisoners who had been sentenced by military tribunals and those who were still under investigation, were being held in local jails throughout the country.

The bishop added: "We have received information about one hunger strike, at one camp, by 80 prisoners."

## £360,000 award for man wrongly jailed

**Los Angeles, Aug 12.**—A lorry driver jailed for two and a half years as a bank robber because a policeman falsified fingerprint evidence against him was awarded \$750,000 (£360,000) yesterday by the city of Buena Park, California.

"There's no way they can pay me back for what I went through," Mr William DePalma said. He was convicted of bank robbery in 1968, and sentenced to 15 years in prison, largely on the strength of the evidence of Sergeant James Bakken, who identified a fingerprint found in the bank as Mr DePalma's. Sergeant Bakken was convicted of falsifying fingerprints in an unrelated marijuana case and sentenced to a year in jail.—UPI.

## Egypt to ban knives

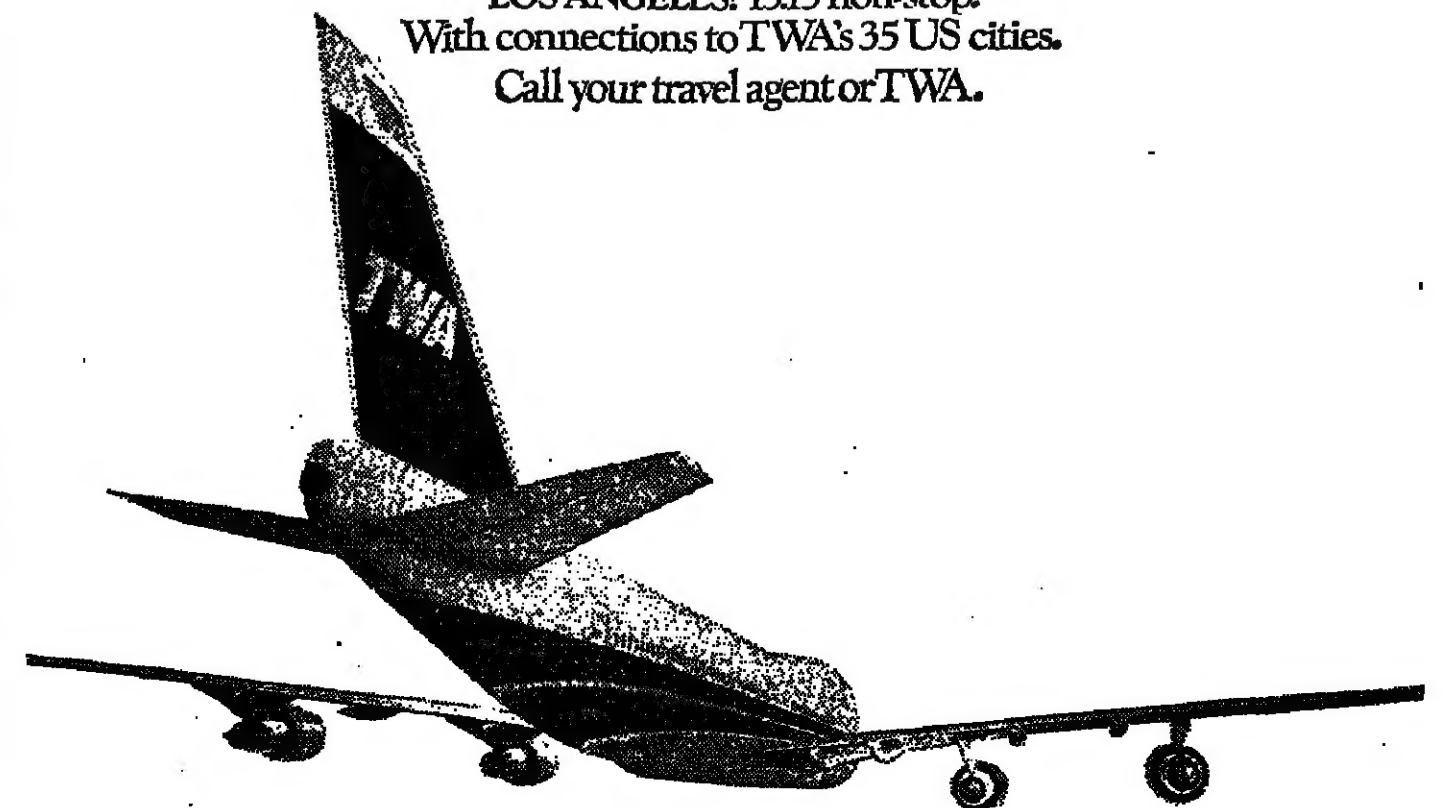
**Cairo, Aug 13.**—The Egyptian Government is to ban the carrying of knives. Police recently seized about 1,000 flick knives in one day, mostly from pickpockets and muggers operating on trains and buses.—Reuters.

## Von Braun operation

**Baltimore, Maryland, Aug 13.**—Dr Werner von Braun, the German-born rocket expert, who is 63, has had a malignant tumour removed at a Baltimore hospital. His condition is said to be satisfactory.

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## The People's Republic of CHINA

The Times will be publishing a Special Report on China on September 30th, 1975.

For full details contact Alan Gray, The Times, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ, or telephone him on 01-837 1234, extension 6195.





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## Shopping/Shona Crawford Poole

### Buying pots from potters

Tucked in a walled courtyard, Crail Pottery plays hide and seek with strangers to the higgledy-piggledy streets of the Fife fishing village where Stephen and Carol Grieve set up shop 10 years ago. The Griesves came to Scotland from Ambleside. They bought a disused joinery workshop for £250, converted it into a pottery, and set about making their life and their living as craftsmen potters. The result is the stuff of dreams.

"The local people were amazed when we came here", says Carol. "We spent a year digging the workshop out. It was derelict and there was rubble everywhere. People thought we were mad at first, but it worked. Our children were born here which helped in a way, and now our neighbours come and buy things—the pieces we particularly like as well as the more commercial things."

Above the pottery, which is a picturesque without being cute, is a

studio showroom with an illustrated explanatory display of their work. Its shelves demonstrate the variety of styles produced, from a well designed bread and butter line of ovenproof cooking pots to more exotic wood-fired pieces. Wood firing gives a very subtle and interesting range of glazes, but because of the high cost involved, the Griesves make only small quantities of their work this way.

Their home is just across the street from the workshops. The back garden, luxuriant with fruit, vegetables and herbs is separated from the seashore by a rough grass path. They keep a small boat in the harbour. "I can catch enough fish for a week in an hour here", says Stephen Grieve.

Crail Pottery showroom is open to visitors from April 1 to September 30, weekdays 9 am-1 pm and 2 pm-5 pm, weekend 2 pm-5 pm. During the winter it is open most weekdays, but ring Crail 413 to check.

David Heminsley worked as Head of Ceramics at Belfast College of Art and Design before settling two and a half years ago at the Craft Centre in Balbirnie, near Glenrothes, Fife. The centre was once the stables of the local big house. Now it is a hive of craftsmen, including a cabinet maker,

a weaver, a jeweller and an artist in stained glass. David Heminsley was first into the development, started at the suggestion of David Harding, architect of Glenrothes new town which also has a town artist. "It is a very exciting place to work", he says.

The pottery makes the planters photographed, and a wide range of household pots as well as individual hanging sculptures. Most of his work is in natural colours, beiges, browns, creams and yellows. Visitors are welcome in the workshop and showroom "at any decent hour, but it is helpful to ring and make an appointment if people are coming any distance". David Heminsley's telephone number is 059-275 5975.

Briglin Pottery was started 27 years ago by Brigitta Appleby, not far from her present premises at 22/23 Crawford Street, London W1H 1PJ, telephone 01-935 0605. The workshop is in the basement of a showroom shop filled with pottery, clothing, cards and gifts. The output of Brigitta Appleby and her assistants runs to over 2,000 pieces a week. Mugs are the best seller, and all the pottery's high fired earthenware is decorated. The workshop's speciality is wax-resist decoration, and brown is the predominant colour.

● Shopping page usually includes plenty of items which can be bought by post. This week is an exception because it is about craft pottery. Much of the fun of buying pottery is visiting the place where it is made, and because each piece is unique, choosing what pleases you most. Potteries tend to be small concerns, and potters cannot make pots while coping with a flood of postal orders. And even with careful packing, pots are sometimes broken in transit with disappointment all round.

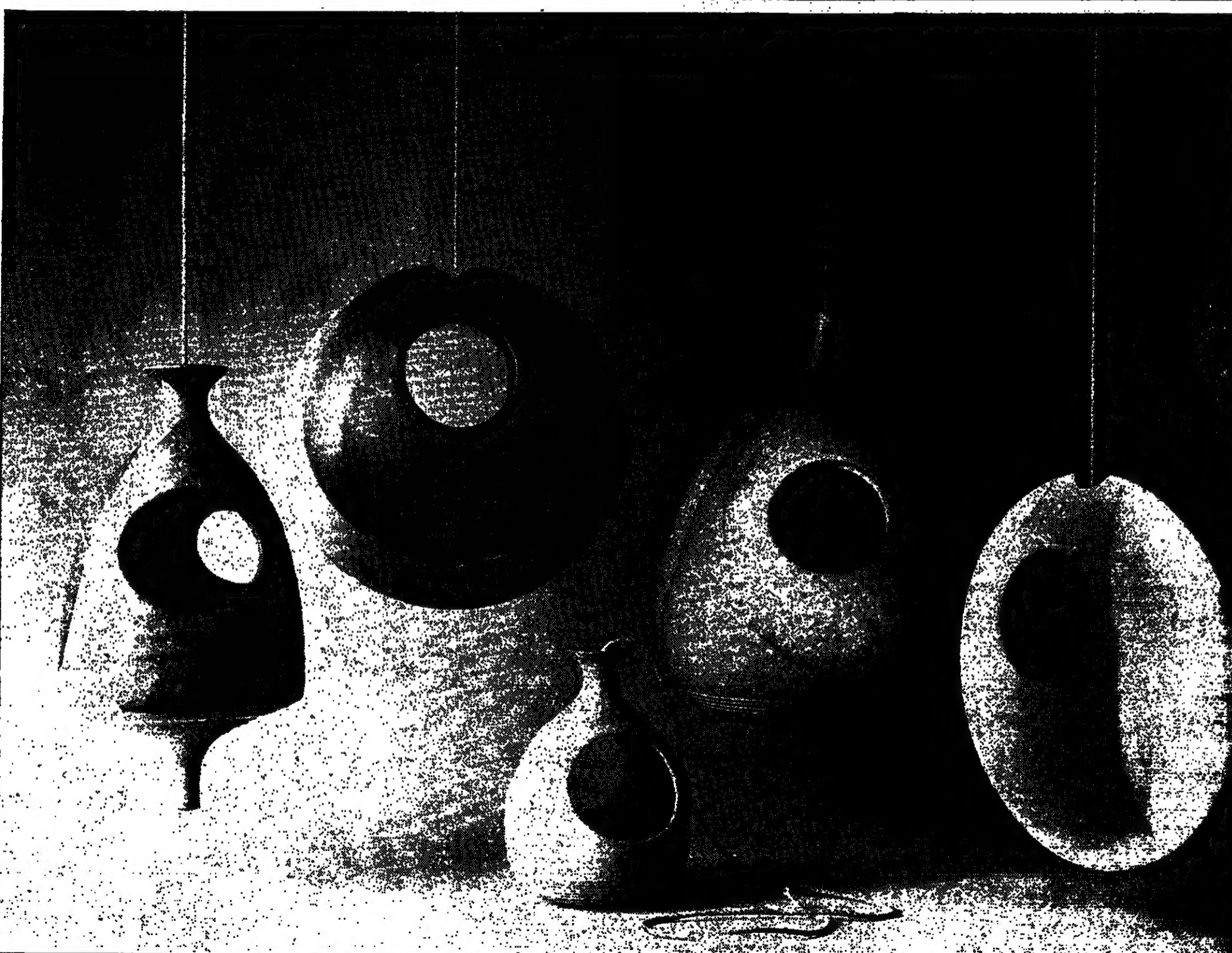
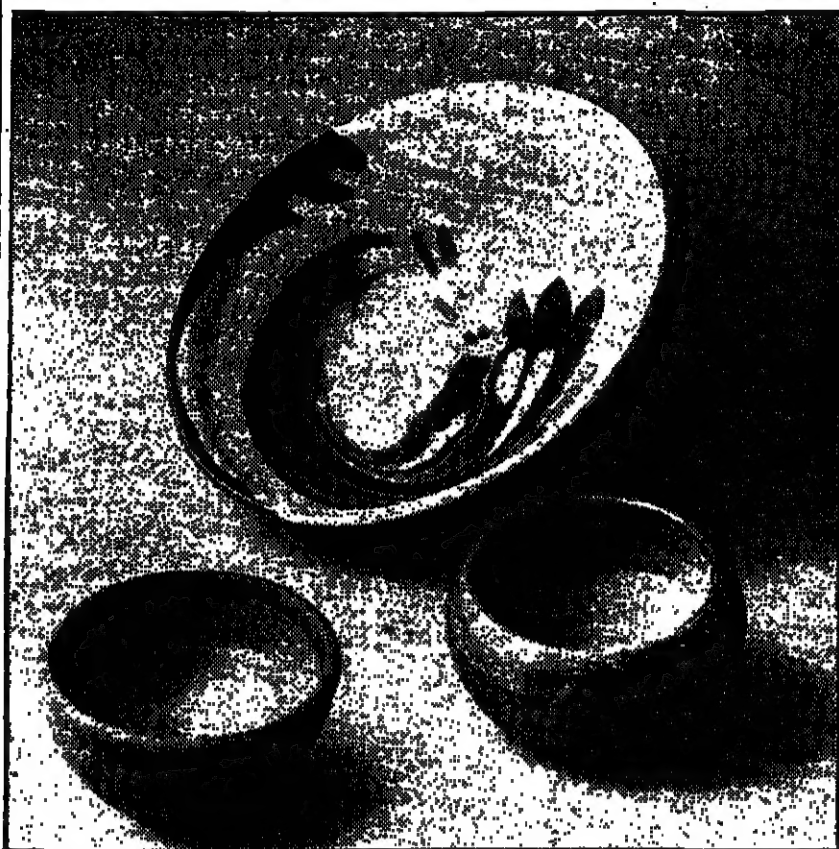
There are hundreds of small potteries and individual potters scattered all over the country. Some are happy to show visitors round their workshops, others admit them to showrooms only. Opening hours are erratic, so it is usually wise to make a telephone call first. Many can be found in *Potters*, an illustrated directory

Photographs of pottery by Trevor Sutton, Brigitta Appleby by Warren Harrison.

of the work of full members of the Craftsman Potters Association of Great Britain. This book, 147 names and addresses at costs 95p plus 15p postage for the Craftsman Potters Association, William Blake House, Mars Street, London, W.1., telephone 01-437 7605. The Craftsman Potters Shop, at the same address, carries a wide variety of its work, and prices are often surprisingly reasonable.

Few Scottish potters belong to the association, but many are members of the Scottish Craft Centre which displays a selection of their work. The Centre is Acheson House, Canongate Edinburgh, telephone 031-556 8136.

Some potters do not belong to any organization, but craft know their local suppliers: potters, like artists and writers, are well-known figures in their own areas.



● Top left: three bowls by Crail Pottery. Top is a slipware decorated bowl with a wave pattern in soft blue and brown against a cream background, £3.50. There are similar bowls with patterns like this against dark backgrounds. Left, a small bowl in Crail's ovenproof cooking pot range, 35p. Right, an individual wood-fired bowl, £12. No black and white photograph can do justice to the subtle pinks and beiges of this little bowl.

● Top centre: Brigitta Appleby at work in her basement pottery in London.

● Top right: cylindrical pots from Briglin Pottery. From left: large vase £6.35, wax-resist decorated mug £1.40, wax-resist decorated vase £4.95, and storage jar £2.50.

● Above: a selection of David Heminsley's hanging planters. Most are partially glazed and all the colours are soft and natural. From left, stemmed planter £2.90, disc planter £2.92, small unglazed planter £1.40, and large planter £3.50.

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## ON THE IMPOVERISHMENT OF BOTH

The Government acknowledges its purposes in proposing a new system of licensing for private nursing homes and hospitals. One to ensure that patient care in the private sector complies with minimum criteria. The other is to ensure that development of the private sector does not operate to the detriment of patients in the NHS. "It would not be enough," says the consultative document on the separation of private practice from National Health Service Hospitals published this week by the Department of Health, "to make it more difficult to provide a comprehensive national health service by absorbing, either nationally or locally, any undue proportion of scarce skills achieved by training at public expense." These are two very different objectives. Nobody could quarrel with the first. It is entirely proper for the state to exercise authority to safeguard patients in the minimum standards of private nursing homes, whether in the private or public sector. The second objective is quite another matter.

What is proposed is in effect to place a ceiling on the quantity of private medical care that may

legally be offered in this country so as to ensure that the NHS will not be deprived of skilled manpower. Just what the practical effect of such a limitation would be is not certain. The ceiling may have been fixed above the level that would naturally be reached by market forces, in which case it would be little more than symbolic. But predictions of that sort are dangerous. Nobody can be sure what state the NHS will find itself in over the next few years, or whether we shall be entering a new era of prosperity by 1980. In any case it is the principle that matters.

It is entirely wrong that any ceiling at all should be imposed on the provision of private medical care that meets the necessary minimum standard. To do that is to interfere with a simple personal liberty. Ministers may believe that it is immoral to use private medical facilities when there is a national health service available, in which case they may set a personal example. They may believe that it is socially divisive for others to do so, in which case they have formidable means of exhortation at their disposal. But to use the power of the law for such a purpose is misplaced and offensive.

In so far as such a step may

be considered necessary to protect the NHS it is so only because of the doctrinaire division that is to be made between private practice and the NHS. It can only mean that the Ministers, having foolishly insisted on such a division, now fear that too many doctors may decide to go over entirely to the other side. That judgment may well be as unjustified as some of their others, but it does indicate the folly of supposing that medical care in general can gain from drawing as sharp a line as possible between them.

The wiser course has always been to interweave them if anything more closely so that they could share, with a proper division of cost, the use of scarce resources both of facilities and manpower. In that way private medicine could benefit from some of the specialized facilities of the NHS, and the money flowing into private medicine might be used to irrigate the British medical system more generally. What the Government have now done is to produce a document whose main practical effect may be to encourage the still more rapid emigration of doctors, which can hardly be in the best interest of patients in either the public or the private sector.

## WHICH ROAD TO REVOLUTION?

Which communist party which takes power by electoral methods is a multi-party democratic system is confronted with an inescapable dilemma. If it promotes its fidelity to the revolutionary principles on which it was founded, it runs the risk of frightening away the voters who support it. But if it abandons those principles and openly accepts the existing representative democracy as a means of attaining its ends, it loses its identity and becomes indistinguishable in the eyes of its own supporters from the bourgeois social democrats, reformists and opportunists whose function is to improve the capitalist system rather than to abolish it.

The effort to resolve this contradiction has now been occupying communist leaders in Western Europe, and especially those of the two largest communist parties in the area, the French and the Italian, for over a decade. The Italian, who inherit from Gramsci and Lenin a certain intellectual independence in applying general Marxist-Leninist propositions to particular Italian circumstances, have moved rather more daringly to an abandonment of the revolutionary pretensions than the French comrades. But both have stressed the need for unity between the communist and the progressive forces, and have often been prepared to modify their own programmes in order to make this possible. In the last year or two, this "united front" policy has been aided by a number of factors. A Chilean tragedy of 1973 revealed the vulnerability of a rigid Marxist coalition seeking

to introduce a major social transformation on the basis of a relatively narrow electoral mandate. The French election campaign of 1973 and 1974 failed to produce a change of regime in France, but did bring about a spectacular revival of the Socialist Party which many communist leaders felt had been achieved largely by their efforts and at their expense. Worst of all, the course of the Portuguese revolution and the bitter quarrel between Socialists and Communists in Portugal this summer has inevitably exacerbated mutual suspicion between communists and their actual or potential allies in other European countries. It has also divided the communist parties among themselves, for while the Spaniards and Italians have felt obliged to criticize certain attitudes of their Portuguese comrades, the French have supported them throughout, joining in their attacks on Dr Soares and bitterly criticizing the French Socialists for giving him support.

Have these difficulties led the

formula "unity at any price", and thus of preventing the party from going beyond the minimum demands of "the most unstable and least consequent participants" in the general democratic movement.

Mr Zorodov also recalls that although a "popular majority" is an essential component of Leninist revolutionary strategy, for Leninists "this majority is not, in itself, a political concept. His article may thus be intended as a defence of the Portuguese Communists, who have been much criticized by non-communist commentators for failing to accept the "artificial" result of the general election, which gave the majority to the Socialists and Popular Democrats. But it looks also like a veiled attack on the Italian Communists, with their very moderate political programme and their strategy of "historic compromise" with the Christian Democrats.

The Italian party has clearly taken it as such, for its organ *L'Unità* has published a reply, rebuking Mr Zorodov for "reducing the thought of Lenin to a single concept, to a few quotations and brief formulae", and disingenuously applauding him for saying that the concept of a majority must be political, since "a socialist society cannot be constructed without the consent of the overwhelming majority of working people".

The French Communists are hardly less embarrassed by Mr Zorodov's remarks, and have tartly pointed out that they decided their own policies "Paris and not in Moscow". But both French and Italians remain acutely concerned about the fate of their Portuguese comrades, and the debate about the implications of the Portuguese experience for other countries is probably only just beginning.

## MORE THAN THEY CAN CHEW

Seeborn's report on social services in 1968, and its official forerunner in the Local Authority Social Services Act of 1970, outlined a spectacular increase in public provision for social care. Seeborn played the crucial role in encouraging public interest and investment in the personal social services as was played by Beveridge in the case of social security, and Robbins in that of higher education.

In the past generation expenditure on the personal social services has increased four-fold in real terms. In the last ten years has increased by more than 100 per cent in money terms, from £100m in 1963 to £500m in 1973. A proportion of the gross national product absorbed by social services doubled from 0.4 per cent in 1968 to 0.8 per cent in 1973. Yet in spite of this remarkable expansion, complaints about the adequacy and performance of the social services have increased rather than abated. Last year the House of Commons Social Services Committee even asked of "the critical state" of personal social services "the non-availability of finance". Clearly the expectations of the public and the Government have outrun the ability of local authority social services depart-

ments to offer satisfactory solutions within the available resources — although these resources have been increasing at a faster rate than for any other local authority service. The public reaction to the deaths of Maria Cowell and Steven Miles is one example of this sharpened expectation. On a more reasoned plane, the recommendations of the Finer report on one-parent families are another. The recent action taken by social workers in Tower Hamlets in east London is, in a different way, evidence of the same thing.

From one point of view the First Report of the Personal Social Services Council could not have been published at a more unlucky moment. Eight days ago Mr Crossland announced that he would allow for no real growth in the rate support grant to local authorities next year. Social services have already had their growth rate cut from fourteen to six per cent this year. A further cut of similar magnitude will be a severe shock to social services departments, that have yet to absorb the effects of this year's reduced growth. The tension between expanding expectations and contracting resources will become more acute.

Yet from another point of view the council's report is opportune. It may have been misunderstood some recent statements by myself. In the first place, no-one as far as I am aware has proposed any rate expenditure on the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

My own position on the matter is as follows. First, I can claim to be one of the strongest advocates in London local government of a "no growth" philosophy — no growth in either expenditure or rates. In the second place, I am strongly in favour of a widespread Jubilee celebration, not only for reasons of loyalty and gratitude (which I am sure Mr Greenman shares), but because I know that the Jubilee will

be of the greatest practical benefit to London and Londoners. Not only will it give an immense boost to the tourist industry, but it will in the long term help to maintain the city's position as a world centre for trade, culture and entertainment.

The Jubilee will, among other things, be an investment in London's future — an investment of confidence, even more than money. And there are already people willing to put much of the money up. Yours faithfully, ILLYD HARRINGTON, Deputy Leader of the GLC, County Hall, SE1. August 13.

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## Threat to MPs from party activists

From Mr Humphrey Berkeley  
Sir, The revelation by Mr Ron Heister that the Campaign for Labour Democracy, with only about 300 members throughout the country, has affiliated to the 55 constituency Labour parties is at least refreshingly candid. What is, however, utterly deplorable is that such a small group of people should be able to gain control of so many constituencies with the avowed aim of ousting sitting Labour Members of Parliament, whose loyalty to the Labour movement is not in question, if they do not hold extreme left wing views. That this political carnage should be attempted in the name of democracy is contemptible. A Member of Parliament in a democratic society should, as far as possible, seek to represent the views of those who elected him of which the members of the Campaign for Labour Democracy represent a minute proportion.

I believe in the party system but all parties are conditions of interest as indeed the founders of the Labour Party recognized in 1906 when its three component parts, the Fabian Society, the Independent Labour Party and the Trade Union Movement, came together.

The Conservative Party and the Labour Party at constituency level have both on occasion refused to readopt their sitting members, when they have been opposed to party policy. Mr Nigel Nicolson and Mr Sidney Evans are examples of this.

An entirely new development, wholly alien to British political traditions has now occurred. Both in the Labour Party and in the Conservative Party small and extreme caucuses have taken over constituency parties with the declared aim of ousting Members of

Parliament who have been wholly loyal to their party in their parliamentary conduct. The caucus very nearly succeeded in ousting Mr Nigel Fisher, a former Conservative Minister, in Surbiton and did in fact succeed in ousting Mr Reginald Prance in Newham.

I have publicly advocated electoral reform in the shape of the alternative vote since 1968. This would enable Mr Prance, if he so wished, to stand as an independent Labour candidate at Newham without splitting the Labour vote and letting in the Tories. But much more importantly it would make constituency parties much more reluctant to oust their sitting members, because the power of the caucus would be immeasurably diminished.

A constituency party is obviously entitled to be satisfied that the views of its Member of Parliament broadly coincide with declared party policy. I cannot, however, imagine that any man of integrity and self respect and ability would consent to accept nomination if a precondition of that nomination were to be that at all times his views must coincide with those of the Campaign for Labour Democracy, to whom he would be accountable.

In 1931 a Bill providing for the alternative vote had passed through all its stages in the House of Lords and had passed through the second reading in the House of Commons. It only failed to become law because it lapsed when the General Election of 1931 was suddenly called. It should be reintroduced without delay.

Yours faithfully,  
HUMPHREY BERKELEY,  
Three Pages Yard,  
Chiswick, W.4.  
August 12.

## Value of tied cottages to agriculture

From Mr Michael Jopling, Conservative M.P. for Westmorland

Sir, At the end of July the Government announced that in the year up to June 1975, the size of each one of Britain's food producing breeding herds has been drastically reduced. Now they have announced plans for the abolition of agricultural tied cottages which will further reduce the number of people who are employed in agriculture.

There has been no satisfactory explanation why agricultural tied cottages, which constitute only about 10 per cent of tied cottages in this country, have been especially singled out. The reason is to appease the extreme Left-wing consciences of a minority of Labour Party septs.

The Government have failed to take the facts into consideration before producing their consultative document, which does not even allow discussion over abolition itself; only over the means. The 1973 Tavistock Institute survey suggested that over one-third of farmworkers are housed in tied cottages, that only 6 per cent of farmworkers in tied cottages have ever been threatened with eviction, and that only one per cent have ever had court orders served upon them. Indeed the Scottish farmworkers have announced that they are "completely in accord" with the retention of tied cottages.

At least the Government seem to have recognized that total abolition is not sensible. But they are pressing on with plans which will take a large percentage of cottages out of agricultural use.

We all want to help to remove any hardship which the tied cottage system might be causing. But this is by improving rural housing; but there is nothing in the Government's plans which appear to work towards this end. The greatest hardship to farmworkers comes at retirement, but I am sure that much more could be done with local authority co-operation to remove this difficulty.

Farmworkers do a magnificent job in providing food for the people of

this country. I fear that in the end these proposals will neither be in the interest of farmworkers, many of whom will face massive rent increases; nor will they be in the interests of housewives, who can only look to dearer and scarcer food as a consequence.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL JOPLING,  
Opposition Spokesman on Agriculture,  
House of Commons,  
August 8.

From Mr H. W. Juniper  
Sir, In spite of some disadvantages, the advantage of the agricultural tied cottage to the enterprising farm worker is very real. He is almost the only class of worker who can afford to keep perhaps 100 miles and secure promotion or other amenity and a home at the same time. What would be the good of saying to a man "You can have the job and I hope that you will be able to find somewhere to live"?

I farmed in Essex for 27 years and I have never known of a good farm worker who was unemployed and available. From time to time I advertised in *The Farmer and Stockbreeder* and engaged, among others, one man from north Norfolk, one from Bedfordshire, and of the two finest men it was my pleasure and privilege to employ, one came from Cambridgeshire and one from a distant part of Essex.

Without tied cottages, or a supply of vacant council cottages, workers will have to stay where they are, and farmers advertising locally will be faced with the deplorable prospect of taking one another's men.

The public want many things but above all they want to be fed. If this problem is not dealt with in a very careful and practical manner, the consequences could be disastrous and not only for farmers.

Yours faithfully,  
H. W. JUNIPER,  
St. Valery,  
Herbert Road,  
Salcombe, Devon,  
August 12.

## Community Land Bill

From Mr Guy Barnett, Labour M.P. for Greenwich

Sir, It is clear from his article, "How can we afford another army of under-graduates in the banner of Socialism" (August 8) that Mr Hutchinson has not yet read the Community Land Bill. Nor indeed, despite the impressive credentials he gives him, does it seem that Mr Cleary has either, which is rather a surprising reflection on our soundest property companies.

I was Mr John Silkin's PPS at the time the Bill received its second reading and during its passage through standing committee, and I can assure you that there is as much to set up a National Land Authority to set up a staff of 12,000 people earning average salaries of £5,000 or occupying 150 sq ft of rented office space requiring heating, lighting, cleaning, portage, etc. I am afraid therefore that Mr Cleary's careful arithmetic, which leads him to suggest that the scheme will cost £100 million a year is based on a totally erroneous premise.

If either of them had studied the White Paper or the Bill they would know that the scheme places the responsibility for land acquisition on local authorities. They would also have known that the Bill includes transitional provisions under which local authorities will possess the power to acquire land (but not the right to move towards the full permanent scheme). So it is not correct to imply that the full cost of the scheme will have to be paid "before a single rod, pole, perch or metre of land changes hands".

Mr Silkin has indeed estimated that when the scheme is fully in operation some 12,000 staff will be needed by all local authorities (including, presumably, cleaners and porters). Of these less than 4,000 will be professional, so that the average salary figure of £5,000 a year which Mr Cleary assumes is a massive overestimate. Moreover, these staffs will not all be extra. There can be little doubt that one of the major benefits likely to flow from the scheme is the redeploy-

ment of the wasteful and extravagant use of manpower which resulted from the re-organization of local government carried through Parliament with the full support of Mr Hutchinson. The acquisition and management schemes involving cooperation between authorities will result in the cutting out of wasteful duplication of officialdom for which Mrs Thatcher and her friends must bear a large share of the blame.

And lastly what makes Mr Hutchinson assume that no benefits will flow from the scheme? Mr Silkin has stated that when it is fully in operation it will earn for local authorities and the Exchequer £750 million a year. Surely that should "gladden many a Tory heart".

It is all very well to complain of the Bill's imprecision and ambiguity. Mr Hutchinson might discover there were fewer when he has read it.

Yours faithfully,  
GUY BARNETT,  
House of Commons,  
August 9.

## Batting without gloves

From Mr Kenneth Gregory

Sir, Mr Greig's voluminous batting-cum-boxing gloves are all very well, but the fact remains that in 1926 Bardsley, Woodfull and Ryder appeared for Australia wearing a glove only on the bottom hand. Pinned against them were Tate, "whose bowling left the pitch at tremendous pace", and Larwood who was "decidedly fast". However the batsmen did not appear to receive blows on their ungloved hands. Did this signify an outstanding technique, or did the batsmen soak their top hands in brine overnight? Come to that, there is a photograph of J. M. Gregory batting against Middlesex (and the fast G. O. Allen) with both hands bare. Perhaps someone can explain.

Yours faithfully,  
KENNETH GREGORY,  
Cedarwood,  
Camilla Drive,  
Westbourne,  
Dorking, Surrey,  
August 11.

## Relief of suffering in Ethiopia

From Mr William F. Lee and Mr G. Blair Thomson

Sir, The famine that still threatens 4 million people in Ethiopia owes as much to mismanagement by men as it does to the cruelty of nature. But in discussing the issue of suffering in Ethiopia, your two recent correspondents approaching the subject from opposite ends of the political spectrum both make self-contradictory arguments.

Sir Bernard Braine concedes (August 5) that "man-made dislocation caused by war in Eritrea" is hampering famine relief work, but he expects the soldiers of the Derg to respond to humanitarian instincts and the treatment of prisoners, for example, in return for foreign relief aid.

Mr Jonathan Dimbleby acknowledges the consequences to relief work of the "social upheaval of the revolution" but he blames westerners "who abhor the revolution" for frustrating the humanitarian instincts of the revolutionaries (August 7).

Just as it is difficult to ascribe any humanitarian aspect to a military dictatorship that is pursuing brutality and violence, it seems odd to appeal for western assistance at a time when western residents of Ethiopia—including relief workers, and missionary doctors and teachers—are being harassed and attacked by militant students who want all western influences destroyed.

Mr Dimbleby evokes a picture of the Ethiopian Government "on bended knee to the world" for famine assistance. Yet, in his latest television report on Ethiopia, he himself revealed how the Derg's political and military decisions in Eritrea had prevented relief supplies from reaching 100,000 starving refugees. And there has been contributions for some time that the Derg have used foreign relief contributions for military purposes, including the purchase of armaments.

If they want manpower to fight the famine, the Derg might consider diverting to relief work some of the 65,000 student campaigners who are busy teaching peasants about socialism. One might also ask, in view of the need for medical help, why the Derg chose to close the medical school in Addis Ababa last year, just as one group of trainees were about to graduate.

It is just as facile of Mr Dimbleby to blame western attitudes to the revolution for the misery in the Ogaden and Eritrea now as it would be to blame the Derg's policies of repression for the famine in the Ogaden. Sir Bernard to have ignored the responsibility of the former imperial regime for the misery in Wollo in 1972.

The true "maladministration" afflicting Ethiopia at the moment is not so much in the area of famine relief as in the anarchic chaos which the Derg's policies of terror, intimidation, assassination and deception have inflicted on a people still awaiting the freedom, security, justice and prosperity promised them by last year's revolution.

The misdirected entreaties of your correspondents are unlikely to

alleviate this, the true suffering of the Ethiopian people.

Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAM F. LEE,  
G. BLAIR THOMSON,  
24 Oldslow Gardens, SW7.

From Mr Asfa Wossen Asrat  
Sir, After a few short visits to Ethiopia, Jonathan Dimbleby shows a remarkable grasp of the country's basic problems, and his mastery TV expose of the 1973-74 Wollo drought has been justly praised. Nevertheless, there are one or two errors of fact, which I am sure he would wish me to correct. In his reply of August 7 to Sir Bernard Braine's letter of August 5.

He says that the Ethiopian Government has been on bended knee to the world for assistance in the famine-stricken Ogaden and implies that this assistance was withheld. Actually there has been a massive response, from Britain and other countries, but the funds provided have been disastrously mis-administered; trucks intended for famine relief are used to transport troops and weapons; funds donated by philanthropic societies have been diverted to the purchase of arms; in Eritrea, the Dergue has frequently obstructed the distribution of food and medicines by the Red Cross. Surely Sir Bernard should not be criticized for suggesting that foreign aid would be more effective if these practices were discontinued.

The Ethiopian would deny that the old regime neglected the famine of 1973-74. Nor would any wish to return to the old form of government. But when Mr Dimbleby asserts that the situation in Ethiopia "is very much better than it was during the famine two years ago", one is obliged to point out that drought and famine are in fact more widespread today, and according to expert analysis the coming year will see many other parts of Ethiopia as seriously affected as the Ogaden.

Failure to deal with this position is not due to any lack of international support; it is the direct result of high-handed action by a group of young soldiers who believe that intimidation and force are the only means of achieving the reforms which all desire. The continuing executions and vengeful imprisonment of the famine two years ago, and the evidence of this tragic attitude, and it is surely unreasonable to blame Sir Bernard for objecting to it.

I and many of my fellow countrymen hope that Jonathan Dimbleby, with his genius for TV reporting, will soon return to our country, perhaps during the Dergue's first anniversary celebrations this September, when millions of Ethiopian dollars are to be spent on a single day of political propaganda while many thousands of innocent people continue to starve. An objective report on these festivities by Mr Dimbleby would make an invaluable contribution to world understanding of the Ethiopian scene at this time.

Yours truly,  
ASFA WOSSEN ASRATE,  
6 Frankfurt/Main,  
Beechovenplatz 2,  
West Germany,  
August 12.

## Consolidation in Ghana

From the Acting High Commissioner for Ghana

Sir, Kindly permit me to comment on Mr Nicholas Ashford's article, "Ghana's rulers assess popular discontent" which appeared in *The Times* of August 9, 1975.

It is irritating, I am sure, to Ghanaians and Africans in general when Western correspondents, like Mr Ashford, go around smelling coups on the continent just because there has recently been one in an African country. Mr Ashford attributes ominous interpretations to what Lt-Col. Selormey told the students whereas, like his other colleagues, his speech was nothing more than a sincere effort to contribute to the search for solutions to the problems facing Ghana.

When Mr Ashford complains of low basic wages, presumably in comparison to basic wages in industrialized countries, perhaps he should also note that over the past three years and a half, basic wages have been increased by 100 per cent, making them one of the highest in Africa; commodity prices notably for the cocoa farmer, have likewise been increased while salaries have generally been substantially revised upwards.

Needless to say that all these changes have been made in response to the need to help the population overcome the burdens imposed on them by the very rise in the cost of living which the writer refers to but which, it must be remembered, was caused by inflation in other countries, especially the industrialized ones.

## Liverpool Street Station

From Mr D. C. Damant

Sir, The letter from Dr Patrick Nuttgens and others (August 8) refers to the destruction of existing buildings "of a quality we could not hope to match today". Did your correspondents really mean to say this? Are these distinguished gentlemen interested in the development of the qualities of modern architecture? No one is qualified to judge whether an old building should be replaced by a new building unless he is qualified to judge the difference between a good new building and a bad new building.

Yours faithfully,  
D. C. DAMANT,  
16 Orchard Street,  
Cambridge,  
August 8.

## Higher register fees

From Mr Duncan Harrington

Sir, The punitive rise in costs of certificate prices from the General Register Office (*The Times*, August 6) brings the Registrar General into the newspapers once again. (In January there was a proposal to move the G.R.O. to Southampton). Surely there is an alternative which would reduce the demand on the Registrar General's Office to manageable proportions and negate this enormous increase in price.

Foreign journalists are always welcome to Ghana and, contrary to the practice elsewhere, are even encouraged to travel there. No favour is ever asked or expected of them in return. However, one hopes, perhaps inadvertently, that it will not be too much to expect that they show a measure of sensitivity to the country's problems and give some recognition to the open and manifestly honest efforts which the Government is making to surmount them. After all, it is well known that the main problems which Mr Ashford discusses, arising as they do from a well-meaning but inept do from a well-meaning but inept

inflation, have proved equally difficult to solve not only in Ghana but in many other countries as well, both developing and developed.

Reports such as Mr Ashford's, which in the end, tend to undermine confidence in developing countries and consequently impair their well-meaning efforts at national consolidation and construction, are in my view, unhelpful.

When, above all, they happen to be a passionate exercise in speculation, one is understandably distressed because they are printed in a newspaper which is known for its sense of principle and fairness.

One wonders whether Mr Ashford would have written this article at all, if a change had not occurred elsewhere recently.

Yours faithfully,  
J. V. GBESHO,  
AG High Commissioner,  
Office of the High Commissioner for Ghana,  
13, Belgrave Square, S.W.1,  
August 11.

Many persons engaged in historical research and family history require only the information given in the registers and certificates. Could not the necessary legislation be passed to allow these records to become public records? This would then allow one set of the registers to be deposited for public inspection.

Yours faithfully,  
DUNCAN HARRINGTON,  
1 Saint Augustine's Court,  
North Holmes Road,  
Canterbury,  
August 8.

## Haldane's Army

From Mr John Gaylor

Sir, Mr Newcombe (August 7) does well to remind readers that the TAVR is still in being at a time when voluntary service seems increasingly rare.

However, it was the Territorial Force which Haldane created in 1908 and I defy anyone to manage that anagram.

The title Territorial Army was awarded in appreciation of the TF's services in the First World War.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN GAYLOR, Honorary Secretary,  
Military Historical Society,  
The Duke of York's Headquarters,  
Chelsea, SW3.  
August 8.

## osed for the day

1,000,000 unemployed. Today LEB office in Lower Sloane street was closed "owing to staff shortage".

Yours faithfully,  
LEN HOLLAND,  
Nedderburn House,  
wer Sloane Street, S.W.1  
gust 11.

## ibilee celebrations

illidg Harrington

I read Mr Roland Freeman's (August 13) with interest, and



## BOOKS

## Discussing Marxism and democracy

## On Socialist Democracy

By Roy A. Medvedev

Translated by Ellen de Kadt  
(Macmillan, £12)

## To Defend These Rights

By Valery Chalidze

Translated by Guy Daniels  
(Collins/Harvill, £4)

For every disillusioned idealist who resigns from a communist party another is kicked out for suggesting that the party should be true to its professed ideals. A surprisingly large number of dissidents in trouble in communist countries, or are exiled from them, come into this category. As an unusually frank communist official once said to me when I asked him to explain some recent expulsions from an east European party: "Their real crime, you see, was to say that the system we now have is not truly socialist."

Roy Medvedev, who still lives in Moscow, commits the same "crime". Valery Chalidze, now exiled in New York, inhabits an adjacent political territory in so far as he rests his case primarily on the demand that the Soviet authorities should respect existing laws and constitutional rights.

Medvedev is the more thoughtful and analytical of

the two. He has already written a penetrating history of Stalinism and a joint account of the incarceration in a mental hospital of his twin brother, Zhores Medvedev, who now lives in London. His views, like those of his ostracized not only by the Soviet authorities but also by many Soviet dissidents who cannot stomach his loyalty to Marx. He is, however, in the mainstream of communist reformers who believe that the corruption of the system has been due not primarily to inherent defects but to the Russian tradition. Stalin, and the machinations of the apparatus set up to administer it.

It is not an easy thesis to defend because of the logical difficulty of saying that a system which produced and obeyed a monster was at the same time the innocent victim of the monster, but he makes a good job of it, and many of his ideas are very similar to those of the Czech reformers whose hopeful experiment was crushed by Soviet tanks in 1968.

He offers a devastating critique of the Soviet system as it is today, explaining how its entire economic and social life is based on the dog of dog lovers or cactus growers, a subordinate to the party, so that a threat to the bureaucracy is seen as a threat to the whole of society. He demonstrates

convincingly that the development of the Soviet Union is held back by restrictions on discussion and dissent.

Yet he retains his faith. "It is absolutely not true," he writes, with texts to support him, "that Marxism and socialism are incompatible with democracy". Open discussion, he pleads, would not weaken but strengthen communism by helping it to adapt to new conditions. The most realistic hope, he says, is "for slow and gradual evolutionary transformation". He even suggests the possibility that a form of multiparty democracy could develop — several of the political trends in our country already contain in embryo all the elements of political organizations or parties.

But he is realistic enough to be very cautious. "For most of the bureaucrats and dogmatists in the upper ranks of the party open debate would lead to disaster," he writes, so that "unfortunately we see that the movement towards a 'tightening of the screws' still seems a more likely prospect than systematic development of socialist democracy".

Nevertheless, he is convinced that "democratization is an objective necessity for our society. Its inevitability is related to economic and technical progress". As a good

Marxist he therefore believes it will come eventually. It will not come automatically or be handed down from above, he says, it will have to be struggled for. He believes the struggle has already begun, and he sets out guidelines for waging it in a responsible manner within the constitution.

Is his cautious optimism justified? His approach certainly seems closer to the inside political reality of the Soviet Union than that of Solzhenitsyn. Let history judge. Meanwhile his book, nicely translated by Ellen de Kadt, is essential reading for anyone trying to understand the Soviet system and the various strands of dissent which it provokes.

The same applies to the more limited work by Valery Chalidze, which is confined largely to theory and practice in matters relating to human, legal and constitutional rights in the Soviet Union. It is a dry but vivid and sometimes humorous book which contains one particularly nice gem from a propaganda pamphlet: "Bourgeois propagandists may in certain cases libellously utilize actual facts and reliable statistical data". With such dangerously accurate being used, no wonder the bureaucracy has to be vigilant.

Richard Davy

richer but necessary thing.

The *Understudy* is Elia Kazan's fourth novel. The protagonist is Sonny, a Broadway actor, competent and successful, but lacking the spark that would take him to greatness, the stardom, that he wants.

Sonny is under the thumb, and the influence, of a man who has been a great theatre actor, Sidney Castleman (born Schlossberg) who rose from the Yiddish-speaking theatres of Second Avenue to the Broadway stage, and then fell out of fashion. He is Sonny's pensioner, his perpetual understudy, and is a monstrous man, treacherous, insulting, impossibly self-centred, but at the same time, the touchstone by which Sonny measures himself and his career.

Ironically it is only by imitating Sidney that Sonny finds fame as "Pappy Morgan", hero of a successful television series which he knows will devour not only his talent but his entire life. Sidney, who dies penniless and forgotten has been touched with greatness and the actor's power to move an audience. Sonny will always remember that this has been denied him.

Unfortunately, there are several sub-plots, flash-backs during an African safari, of war experiences in Korea, Sidney's rather improbable involvement with organised crime, which detract from what might have been a more powerful novel about the Broadway scene. Mr Kazan, as a well-known director, is in the right place to give us an authentic view from the wings.

Don't Call It Love, by Helen Muir (Duckworth, £2.95). A first novel, chronicling the mad pursuit of Earl Orty, handsome but failed Australian actor, by Joanna Turabull, 30ish, depressed, separated from three husbands Cedric Cotton. A satirical look at the drab sex life of Rinsbury Park and its dreary inhabitants — driven along with quite a number of good jokes at a cracking pace. Though everyone is passionately interested in sex, no one appears to have either a mind or a heart. Not that it matters, terribly.

Philippa Toomey

## Crime

Saturday Games  
By Brown Meggs

(Collins, £2.75)

A new star looks as if it has arisen in the crime firmament. Down near the misty horizon still, it is too soon to assess its true magnitude, though in America it has been adjudged second to the best crime novel last year. Already with this one book it would appear that Brown Meggs is an author to be reckoned with. Unfair that some people who have never written a fictional word can step straight into the art. But Meggs has straight away hit upon the three essentials for high success: you want to read him; all he writes rings true; he uses his story to a purpose.

The book is a page-flicker. Partly this desire to find out what is coming next springs from its ingenious form. We see a quarter of Californian tennis players, one of whom has woken brain-foggy from marijuana plus alcohol vaguely conscious that something, something ter-

rible, happened the night before, and during the progress of the book (and of a long Saturday morning on court) what that something is gradually emerges, with a final twist that is only a little contrived. And partly this whizz of a read is achieved by a style at once easy but not surface skating.

How true is what he tells us perhaps only a Southern Californian could say, but the people, selected residents of the town of Pasadena, certainly are recognisable human beings and of a special sort. The sort they are brings us to what I take to be Meggs's object: to show Pasadena as personifying a whole trend in American living, even in world progress (in a wrong direction). He underlines this, perhaps unnecessarily, by chapter-heading quotations from socio-architectural writers, who sometimes seem to be frank, a little suspect. But the point he makes, that materialism can turn even the best intentions to frivolity (to put it in a crude nutshell) is valid. It may not, in fact, be all that original, but we need to have such things told us always in the most present tense. And this Brown Meggs certainly does.

The Mandarin Cypher, by Adam Hall (Collins, £2.95). Hongkong setting. Well up to Quiller standards. That unshakable pop-man air, the pulsing prose, facts wielded like so many whizzing tomahawks.

Cast. In Order of Disappearance, by Simon Brett (Collins, £2.90). A very welcome first. The go-to-bed-and-be-clever world of the seedy London actor convincingly recreated. Ingenious puzzle, too.

Cop Killer, by Sjöwall and Wahlöö (Collins, £3.00). Arns and the police they sing, mostly in a long actionless idyll in south Sweden. Only some excellent writing rescues from tedium. (Fine translations, Thomas Teal.)

Where All the Girls are Sweetest, by Richard Butler (Peter Davies, £2.90). Steel-tough, ex-agent in action affair in Italy.

with impressive boat, for erotic daydream, so written. Undertone of warmth.

A Witch Dance, by Ken Robert MacLeod (Johns £2.95). Brawny Scots in Munich carnival in plenty of good-weight action, touches of class. A decent pleasure.

The Turquoise Lament, D. MacDonald (Hale). Soft-centred private-eye in Honolulu investigates der attempt on yacht, intriguing, but cursed runs away with him.

Mystery Tour, by Rutherford (Collins). Murder on Italy co. Guess who the filthy Deplorably short for Ru on disc-brakes, limited ferential et al.

H. R. F. K

DAVID POWNALL  
African Horses  
an uproarious new novel  
by the author of  
The Raining Tree War

"Anarchic and hilarious adventures which are impossible to summarise."

— Richard Bennett, *The Sunday Telegraph*

"Astonishing and sustained inventiveness... Close to the spirit of such narrative epics as Tom Jones and Don Quixote."

— Peter Ackroyd, *The Spectator*

"Pownall's voice is unique — his sheer ebullience sweeps one past every obstacle."

— Jeremy Brooks, *The Sunday Times*

"He's obviously going to build his own comic myth of contemporary Africa — a gargantuan force that can accommodate the real-life spectaculars."

— Lorna Sage, *The Observer*

Faber &amp; Faber £3.50

## Fiction

## The Massacre at Fall Creek

By Jessamyn West

(Macmillan, £3.95)

## The Understudy

By Elia Kazan

(Collins, £3.50)

In 1824 five men went out of a small settlement in Indiana and murdered, by shooting and beating to death, a small party of Indian women and children. From the traces of an old court record, Jessamyn West has written a novel which recreates the community, which leads a precarious existence, accustomed to killing, and with both ancestral and personal memories of the savagery of the Indian tribes to the north. The natural leader is the lay

preacher, Caleb, who, with his family is the central figure in the story. The five men who kill are driven by different motives. George Benson has an unreasoning hatred of Indians, having seen, as a child, his grandfather mutilated and killed; John Wood, at 72, has always killed Indians in defence of his land, and sees no harm in it, and his son Johnny is a simpleton. Then there is Luther Beemls, a wild man now reformed and turned settler, and his friend, Jed Clabby, hunter and lone wolf. Clabby disappears, but the others are jailed and a show trial is carefully mounted by the authorities to prevent the Indians from taking a terrible revenge for the moment has passed in history when the law can disregard the killing of Indians, as before.

The guilty hang, to the Indians' disgust. They consider a death by torture more of a testimonial to a man's courage. Caleb believes that the Indians are content, not realising that they have trapped, and will kill in their own fashion, the last murderer. As one of the prosecutors says, justice is a ter-

rible but necessary thing. The *Understudy* is Elia Kazan's fourth novel. The protagonist is Sonny, a Broadway actor, competent and successful, but lacking the spark that would take him to greatness, the stardom, that he wants.

Sonny is under the thumb, and the influence, of a man who has been a great theatre actor, Sidney Castleman (born Schlossberg) who rose from the Yiddish-speaking theatres of Second Avenue to the Broadway stage, and then fell out of fashion. He is Sonny's pensioner, his perpetual understudy, and is a monstrous man, treacherous, insulting, impossibly self-centred, but at the same time, the touchstone by which Sonny measures himself and his career.

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Philippa Toomey

## Comfortable and greedy

## The Companion Guide to Burgundy

By Robert Speaight

(Collins, £5)

The Collins Guides are rarely less than companionable. It has been a privilege to prowls Rome with Georgina Masson and to sun in Venice with Hugh Honour, to wander Ireland with Brendan Lehane and to find Serbian food almost palatable with J. A. Cuddon. The only unfriendly element is their size, they do not slip easily into the pocket unless you happen to be wearing a trench coat.

The latest in the series, Robert Speaight's *Burgundy*, is no exception. I have never seen a tourist, or even a traveller, in a trench coat among the vineyards and his 350 conscientious and erudite pages make a companion for the car or the hotel room rather than a book for reading on the hoof. *Burgundy* is for preparing the next day's route, or simply for noting what could have replaced a post-lunch siesta.

Robert Speaight was the first Becker in *Murder in the Cathedral* and so it is just that he should cherish the romantic in France. He loves the churches and the writers of Burgundy, particularly Vézelay with the grave of Romain Rol-

land and, in another corner, that of the original of Yve in *Le Partage de midi*. And he leaves us at Macon on the southern edge, the birthplace of Lamartine who saw the Maconnais, as he viewed so many places, through a thick romantic haze.

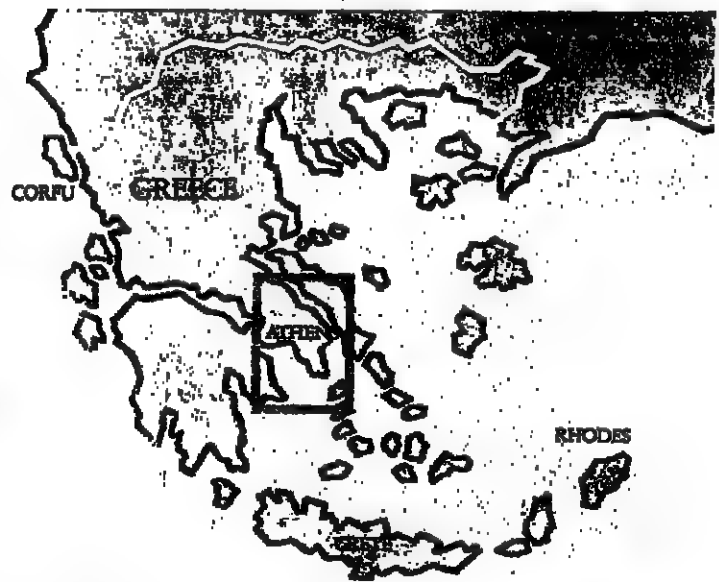
Burgundy is grand, fairly thickly populated, comfortable and, above all, greedy. It is as well to get the stomach into training before launching into a week of andouillettes, rosettes and poulets de Bresse. Mr Speaight enjoys his food as much as his poets and churches, and his prose is that of a jolly monk; most of the church of hotels recommended at the end of the Guide have at least one gastronomic star in Michelin.

He likes his wines too, although he is slightly too indulgent of the fripperies of the Chevaliers du Tastevin. But then Burgundy has always been a commercial place, catering all too well, at a price, for the tourists who roar down the new A6 and, at a rather lower mark-up, for the locals. The best products are sheltered from the main road and most notably from the dreary N74 between Dijon and Beaune. But go a kilometre or two to the west. Voltaire gave Beaujolais to his guests and kept the Corton for himself. He was no fool.

John Higgins

## My dream is a monument to glorify this city-state and its deities for all time.

Pericles, General of Athens, 450 BC.



It was built as manifest evidence of the golden age of Greece. "The Golden Age of Pericles." And more than two thousand years later, the awe-inspiring magnificence of the radiantly beautiful Parthenon on the Acropolis has scarcely dimmed.

One of the most intriguing architectural achievements of all time, this immense "Temple to Athena" was built wholly of marble and conceals structural refinements that still baffle the world. For it is of a design that appears symmetrical simply because it is not symmetrical. A marvel of optical deception that would flatter an illusionist.

Stand on the Acropolis and you stand in the shadows of an ancient civilisation that rose from nowhere to shape the world with its discoveries and cultural innovations.

And that is the magnetism of Athens. The outward attractions of the sapphire seas, the sun-bleached sands, the luxury hotels, are inescapably linked to an intangible enchantment, a sense of unreality, the very presence of

a history that stretches back to the dawn of civilisation. The old lives on with the new.

The Erechtheum, the Propylaea and the Temple of Athena Nike proudly stand alongside the Parthenon on the Acropolis, and vie for aesthetic honours.

The Herod Atticus Theatre takes preservation to the extreme, for it is still in active use after 2,000 years. And treasured monuments such as the Poseidon Temple, perched dramatically on Cape Sounion, take the imagination to unrivalled heights.

Relatively younger, but still blissfully unaware of the march of time, is the Plaka, the old town. Here an endless parade of tiny streets and shops tempt the curious. And here, after dark, is the evidence that Athenians are people of the night. Wine flows in tavernas. Music fills night-clubs. And nobody sleeps.

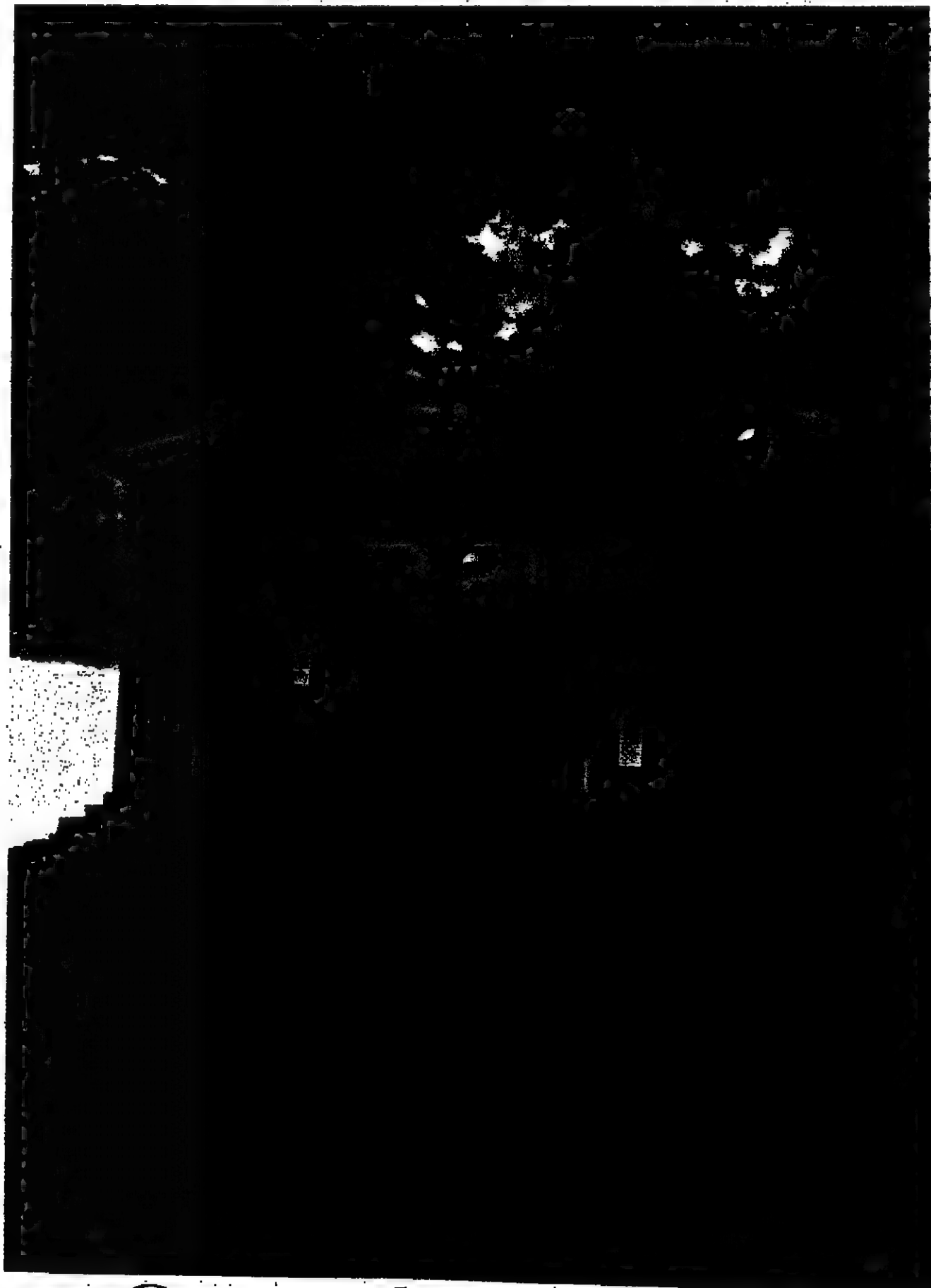
By day, the choice for sun-worshippers is boundless. From the vast stretches of sand that hug the mainland, to the snail-pace of life on the five islands of the deep blue Saronic Gulf.

Each an island paradise of soft sand coves and scaled-down villages, and each just a boat away from Athens.

In fact Athens is the gateway to the whole of the Grecian world. Every adventure is unique. And every holiday becomes an experience.

To discover the limitless choice of holidays, from package tours to Hellenic cruises, just write to: The National Tourist Organisation of Greece, 195-7 Regent Street, London W1. Or call 01-734 5997/8/9. Or ask your travel agent.

In summary, the single quality that separates Greece from the world is timelessness. One has the feeling that Athens will last as long as the Parthenon. And one has the feeling that the Parthenon will outlive time itself.



Greece and the Hellenic Isles.  
They're closer than you think.







## Advance by equities

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**General & Smith**  
Estate Agents  
Nice Frank

**ATCOST**  
STRUCTURAL FRAME  
CONCRETE INDUSTRIAL DIVISION  
100, Victoria Road, London W14 8ET

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

### Government forms special unit to strengthen surveillance of car industry

Industrial Editor separate motor vehicle divided by an under secretary of the ministerial control of Beswick, is being formed in order to tighten the government's surveillance of the car industry.

A team of civil servants, has been quietly assembled by Mr Peter Carey, Second Secretary (Industrial) will work alongside the Industrial Enterprise Board in the rescue plan for British Leyland.

The state aid which has come under fire from the House of Commons, is conditional on the new division of the Treasury on the basis of new money will be made.

Mr Alex Park, the Government-nominated executive of Leyland, who is waiting for a chairman named in the Treasury on the basis of new money will be made.

Mr Park said there would be very big losses for the financial year ending next month. He said he did not make a success of it, I'll be out.

Mr Park was one of the people who had been in the Commons committee, it released this week, its criticism of Lord Ryder and his team that produced the report on which the

state rescue of Leyland is being mounted. In an interview in the company's staff newspaper, Mr Park said his long public silence, maintained while the new company made way for the old, was necessary to ensure the success of the rescue plan. The rescue plan, he says, "sounds like a hell of a lot of money". It was, he said, about £500m to go to the shareholders and £200m to be paid for the rescue plan. The rescue plan, he said, "sounds like a hell of a lot of money". It was, he said, about £500m to go to the shareholders and £200m to be paid for the rescue plan.

He continues: "And there is no doubt that the end of the current financial year in September there will be a very substantial loss on the year's working." Some £300m earmarked from Government funds for 1976-77 was for capital investment in improving facilities, and modernising plants. "That £300m isn't there for the asking, we have to show we are making the type of progress we have promised to make", he said.

The Government had made it clear that it expected Leyland to generate enough cash to pay wages and to cover whatever inflation there is. Every penny would be needed for the business, so that would be no dividend for three or four years.

To illustrate the struggle, Mr Park reports that there is now an inventory of £500m. Even

### Sir Frank McFadzean appointed head of BA

By Peter Hill

Sir Frank McFadzean, chairman of "Shell" Transport and Trading, with a salary of more than £80,000 a year, is to take over as chairman of the state-owned British Airways, a post with a salary of £23,350, on January 1 after the retirement of Sir David Nicholson.

Sir Frank, who has considerable experience of work in government circles, will join the board of British Airways as a non-executive director at the beginning of October.

In government circles last night it was being suggested that Sir Frank had been offered the still vacant post of chairman of British Leyland but had opted for the British Airways position instead.

Last night Sir Frank, who has been chairman of "Shell" Transport since 1972, was reportedly reluctant when talking about his new post.

Asked about particular objectives in his new role, he said that he was attracted to the position because of its international nature. He added, however: "I am not an expert in aviation and it would be premature for me to define any objectives at this point."

It is understood that Sir Frank had indicated that he would be willing to waive his salary but that his wishes had been overruled.



Sir Frank McFadzean: "offered to waive British Airways salary."

Despite the salary cut, however, Sir Frank will qualify for a "Shell" pension.

A Scot, Sir Frank joined the Shell Petroleum Co in 1952 after working with the Board of Trade and the Treasury.

Four years ago he became chairman of the Trade Policy Research Centre and was made a knight in this year's New Year Honours List. He was recently made an honorary Fellow of the London School of Economics.

Sir David, who will have been British Airways chairman for more than four years when he retires, will at the end of this year go on to become chairman of Rothmans International.

### Corah to close three factories as M & S suppliers feel pinch

By Margaret Walters

Yesterday was a day of bad news for the British textile industry as three leading Marks & Spencer suppliers—Carrington Viyella, Corah and Nottingham Manufacturing—produced sharply lower six-monthly profits. Recently, M & S confirmed that it was cutting stocks by up to 10 per cent to counteract a falling level of retail sales.

At Carrington Viyella, Mr Leonard Regan, who took over as chairman last month from Sir Jan Lewando, revealed to shareholders a drop in interim pre-tax profits from £4.5m to just £1.8m.

Corah had suffered a loss in profits of some £1m in the first three months of the year as a result of destocking by retailers, although there had been some improvement in the second quarter.

But whereas the British companies managed a trading profit of £4.3m, compared with £5m, Carrington's overseas subsidiaries—namely Consolidated Textile in Canada—went into losses of £300,000 as against profits of £1.9m last year.

Mr Regan indicated that the future level of retail sales was uncertain, and pointed out that the margins enjoyed by dealers in imported clothing were considerably higher.

Corah, the "St Margaret" knitwear group, three-quarters

of whose production goes to Marks & Spencer, yesterday announced 400 redundancies along with its six-monthly figures. These showed profits down from £635,000 to £280,000 again with losses in its Canadian subsidiary.

The redundancies, accounting for around 8 per cent of the total workforce, will follow the closure of factories at Aberbargoed, South Wales, Bolton upon Dearne, Yorkshire, and Brigg on Humberside. This was an attempt to cut costs.

Finally, Nottingham Manufacturing has produced interim figures showing a fall in pre-tax profits from £4m to £2.7m. Widespread short-time: About half of the 11,000 workers employed in Britain's hosiery and knitwear industry are currently working on short-time according to the industry's major trade organization, the Knitting Industries Federation.

According to a survey published yesterday by the KIF, about 60 per cent of its affiliated firms were operating on a three or four-day week.

Mr Alan Kershaw, director of the KIF, said the level of short-time working resulted from a combination of economic difficulties and what he termed "a flood of cheap imports" including those from Hongkong and Taiwan.

Financial Editor, page 21

### Whitehall may fund Buy British campaign

By Maurice Corina

The merits of mounting an official advertising campaign to encourage consumers and industry to buy more British-made goods, equipment and components are under consideration in government circles.

Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, who is due to give a press conference today at the Design Centre, does not rule out the use of public funds to back up his recent crusade for greater import substitution.

An state-funded propaganda drive on television and in the press could run the risk of overseas criticism, so the likely reaction is one of the factors which Mr Shore has to weigh up carefully before the Government can give the go-ahead.

It would also need the agreement of the Opposition and probably further backing from private industry, who would be asked to stress the British origins of their goods and services in their advertising.

The last "Buy British" campaign was an entirely unofficial affair and did not last long, in spite of enthusiastic work by Mr Robert Maxwell, whose concern about the enthusiastic support of the government of the time.

Mr Shore has, however, become greatly concerned about the increased levels of imports of items for which there are readily available home products of equal quality. In some cases, factories making goods have suffered badly because of import competition.

The Department of Trade has, in the course of some thoroughgoing inquiries into allegations of dumping and the general problem of high imports, concluded that countervailing tariff measures cannot be justified under international trade rules. But a "Buy British" campaign, it is being argued, might be just as effective if properly handled.

The Government has some experience of running national advertising to help the economic situation, having mounted the "Save It" drive to cut down energy use and save imported oil (consumption has been constrained).

Mr Shore recently hit out at people who buy imported cars, and said: "All of us who are concerned about the future of this country and its industry should search our consciences very carefully indeed before deciding to buy foreign cars."

### 500 going back as alewood strike ends

W. Shakspeare

Strike by doorhangers at a Halewood car plant, on eyde, which has cost lost of £2m this week, was called off last night after negotiations with the union's shop stewards and the management.

A 29 doorhangers on the shift walked out on Monday, protest against company plans to reduce working hours from eight to seven men in area of the plant. Later, workers from the body who walked out in sympathy.

The first doorhangers on the shift accepted the management's new manning levels but on Tuesday they too stopped work.

The 29 doorhangers on the day shift, and her 2,000 on the night shift by last night production of 1 vehicles had been lost.

### Leyland set to conclude Nigeria deal

By David Young

British Leyland is about to complete the signing of a contract worth £15m to set up a new manufacturing plant near Ibadan, in Nigeria, which will eventually employ 1,500 and produce Land-Rovers and Range Rovers.

The contract to build the assembly plant has already been drawn up and agreed on, but final signing will not take place until the end of this month.

British Leyland has recently delivered its 1,000th single-decker bus to Africa as part of a £15m contract to Nigeria in a sale arranged by United Transport Overseas Services.

Ford announced yesterday that it is to invest £2.8m in increasing the capacity of its Dagenham diesel engine plant. The project has also involved a £160,000 investment at the company's radiator plant at Basildon.

### Gallaher follows Slater Walker's lead by deciding to buy in unsecured loan stocks

By Adrienne Gleason

Gallaher has now followed the lead given by Slater, Walker and others in deciding to buy in its two unsecured loan stocks. The company, which is a subsidiary of American Brands, unexpectedly announced yesterday that it would start buying amounts of bank stocks expected to be "substantially in excess of those quoted in the market in recent weeks."

Extraordinary resolutions sanctioning the cancellation of the existing 94 per cent stock

1988-93, and of the 94 per cent stock 1997-2002, and their replacement with a new 174 per cent unsecured loan stock, plus shares or cash, were passed at yesterday's sparsely attended meetings.

But those relating to the 94 per cent stock 1991-96 and the 94 per cent stock 1991-96 failed to achieve the required three-quarters majority and have not become effective.

Slater Walker's Finance director, Mr R. E. Whitman, nevertheless expressed himself "very satisfied" with the outcome of the meetings, and in particular at the high level of acceptance.

Acceptances in respect of the 94 per cent stock 1991-96 amounted to 70.68 per cent; and those in respect of the 94 per cent stock 1991-96 amounted to 48.79 per cent. The offers relating to these two stocks have been declared unconditional and remain open for acceptance until 30th September.

Dealings began today in the new 174 per cent stock, which are expected to open at between £96 and £98.

### Pound gains 1/2 cent on the dollar

By Tim Congdon

Sterling had another fairly good day yesterday, as the recent advance of the dollar lost its momentum. The pound closed at \$2.1075, up half a cent on the day and the first rise against the American currency since July 24.

The effective depreciation rate showed little sign of movement, it narrowed to 27.6 per cent from 27.7 per cent at Tuesday's close, with most of this improvement being accounted for by the rise against the dollar. The pound was steady against Continental currencies.

Sterling's main support came from confidence that today's trade figures will show a continuing favourable trend.

Indeed, market sources indicated that the Bank of England yesterday sold small amounts of sterling. Dealers' inventory of sterling was an attempt to bolster the reserves, but it is also consistent with the widely held view that the Bank is trying to stabilise the effective depreciation rate at between 27 and 28 per cent.

Through a shortage of stock continues to exaggerate the position, shares prices made another solid advance on the London stock market yesterday. The FT Index rose 4.6 points to 294.6, making a gain of 15.8 over the first three days of the week and the present account.

### Exchange rate issue threat Ford-Giscard summit

Frank Vogl

hington, Aug 13

United States resistance to a return to some form of fixed exchange rate will continue at the informal meeting of finance ministers here at the end of the month.

It is now probable that the issue of this meeting will "mine whether or not President Ford agrees to take part in a summit meeting on economic questions that has been called by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France."

Mr Edwin Yeo, the new Under Secretary for European Affairs, said that the circumstances which have led to the last 18 months "our system has been under a great deal of international support today by a

### Experts to debate buffer stock plan

By David Blake

A scheme to stabilise world commodity prices by setting up world buffer stocks will be considered by Commonwealth Finance Ministers when they meet in Georgetown, Guyana, on August 26, just before the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund.

The scheme is proposed in a report prepared by a high-ranking team of civil servants and economists set up to examine the problem as a result of Mr Harold Wilson's initiative earlier in the year.

Informed observers yesterday considered the chances of acceptance when the report is debated by the ministers are high.

Recently a meeting of Unctad, generally regarded as the United Nations forum where developing countries express their views, called for a \$3,000m finance plan, to set up stocks of raw materials.

### Blow to General Accident

By Anthony Rowley

General Accident, the second of the big United Kingdom composite insurance groups after Commercial Union to report its first half results for 1975, saw its profits fall from £16.4m to £6.4m during the period. Like CU, GA has suffered badly from underwriting losses in the United States.

These accounted for £7.4m of General Accident's total underwriting losses of £12.7m on a

worldwide basis in the six months to June 30. In the first half of 1974, GA made a small underwriting profit.

The second biggest single underwriting loss for GA so far this year has been one of £3.3m in Britain, reflecting the unprofitable situation in motor and general liability insurance.

GA indicated yesterday that it expects to pay total dividends of 5.75p (net) a share this year, or 8.85p gross.

Financial Editor, page 21

### Unilever still hopeful despite another setback

Despite a further fall in profits in the second quarter of this year, Unilever yesterday reiterated its earlier forecast of a significant improvement over the remainder of 1975, even though the full year figures are not now expected to match those for 1974.

Following the 68 per cent decline in pre-tax profits in the opening quarter, the rate of profits fell in the April-June period eased to 29 per cent, giving a three-month profit total of £66m, against £93.2m in the comparable period of the 1974. The profit was made on a sales total of £1,582m, made up of sales of £581m, by Unilever Ltd, and £901m by Unilever NV.

Financial Editor, page 21

### Managers' union spute may lose 600 pubs

Patricia Tiedall

Emergency talks were called between the National Association of Licensed House Managers and the Transport General Workers' Union yesterday to resolve a dispute which has shut public houses in the Midlands and South East.

Members of the National Association of Licensed House Managers claim that Transport General Workers' Union very drivers had been delivering deliveries unless the union joined the TGWU. As its NALHM has called on its managers to strike.

he strike, the first in the union's history, is to affect about 600 public houses in the Midlands and more in South Wales.

op-level talks were held between the two unions on Monday night, but according to a report in the licensees' trade journal Morning Advertiser, the union did not agree to the terms of the strike which would be guaranteed managers.

Spokesman for the brewery yesterday said that it had called emergency meeting in Birmingham for today.

### How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Allied 2p to 61p	EPF Ind 84p to 85p
Beecham 6p to 274p	Corah N 3p to 16p
BP 5p to 517p	Harwell Withy 4p to 220p
Charter Trust 5p to 38p	Falcon 5p to 246p
Flint 10p to 350p	Metall Bar 15p to 317p
Hoover 8p to 240p	Jardine M'son 4p to 143p
Imp Cont Gas 8p to 350p	
Ladbroke 7p to 140p	Notts Mig 8p to 40p
Rowntree Mac 6p to 130p	Parkd Tex "A" 1p to 14p
Schroders 20p to 370p	Robb Caledon 15p to 10p
Shell 3p to 320p	Songel Feed 9p to 50p
Steele Gorman 10p to 124p	Travis & Arnold 5p to 55p
Sun Alliance 10p to 373p	Vantona 3p to 46p
Unilever 18p to 346p	Wardle B 11p to 71p

### THE POUND

Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia 5 1.70	1.65
Austria Sch 39.75	37.75
Belgium Fr 84.75	82.00
Canada 5 2.22	2.17
Denmark Kr 12.85	12.45
Finland Mkk 8.15	7.90
France Fr 6.45	6.15
Germany DM 5.55	5.35
Greece Dr 69.50	67.25
Hongkong 5 11.05	10.65
Italy L 1510.00	1460.00
Netherlands Gld 5.70	5.50
Norway Kr 11.80	11.45
Portugal Esc 56.50	54.50
S Africa Rd 1.84	1.69
Spain Pes 124.75	119.75
Sweden Kr 9.30	9.00
Switzerland Fr 5.50	5.30
US \$ 2.15	2.10
Yugoslavia Dnr 38.00	36.00

### Slight increase in French production index

From Richard Wigg

Paris, Aug 13

For the first time since last January, France's monthly index of industrial production rose in June, the National Statistics Institute reported today. The June figure was two points up on May and this means that industrial production has dropped off by more than 10 per cent because of the economic recession.

There are no signs of a stimulant sufficiently strong to put things back to a zero industrial growth rate over the second half of this year, so that 1975 looks like being the first year since the Second World War when France's industrial production has not grown.

Experts at the statistics institute are now concentrating increasingly on France's structural unemployment problem.

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## Report looks at systems for housing finance

By Margaret Stone  
Housing finance systems' ability to function efficiently under conditions of rapid and accelerating inflation, is examined in a new OECD report prepared by Professor J. R. S. Revell of University College North Wales.

The report states that under present circumstances housing finance institutions and systems have much greater need for flexibility than a few years ago. It also claims that what flexibility there is built into existing housing systems is not sufficient to cope with present pressures.

After studying the British system, the author concludes that it has worked well on the whole "with some cracks and groans caused by the spasmodic nature of interest rate changes." To avoid the alternate glut and famine of mortgage funds this causes, Professor Revell says that some more automatic way of making changes would probably have been an improvement. Although acknowledging that a secondary market in mortgages (a common feature of the housing finance scene in both North America and parts of Europe) would be difficult to operate in Britain, the report concludes that a secondary market does serve two desirable functions. It mobilises housing finance from institutions which would otherwise not engage in that business and it is an important liquidity tool for the original lenders.

The timing of the report coincides with an important government review of housing finance. "Flexibility in Housing Finance" published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Paris.

## British Gas hits back at CEEB chairman's taxation proposal

By R. W. Kershaw  
The British Gas Corporation last night hit back at Mr Arthur Hawkins, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, who, in a letter to 60 MPs, suggested that a revenue-earning tax on all natural gas supplies landed would protect the market for indigenous coal and encourage further the conservation of energy.

There was a growing consensus that gas was still under-priced, he said. A British Gas spokesman said: "It is ridiculous at the present time to talk in terms of tax on gas when the crying need is to conserve energy generally."

"If a tax were imposed on gas its price would increase and demand would be inhibited. It would simply mean that people would switch to another form of fuel."

In the domestic market, the spokesman said, electricity, that would mean other kinds of fuel, coal or oil would have to be burned to generate that electricity. That wastes much more fuel.

The spokesman pointed out that for every 100 therms of heat applied, only 25 to 30 therms came out in the form of electricity. The use of electricity for home heating was extremely wasteful and a tax on natural gas would produce "a financial burden on consumers that was intolerable and unnecessary."

To make this suggestion at a time when British Gas was trying to maintain prices for at least a year was "unfortunate". Asked if the corporation shared the view that gas was under-priced, the spokesman said: "Gas is competitively priced in the markets to which it is best suited, the premium domestic market."

There were no bulk gas users in industry because there was no natural gas available for them at the moment. The Frigg field would come in in the second half of 1977 and first supplies would go to the domestic market.

Bulk supplies for industry, if all went well, might be available in 1978.

Leaders of the building industry have urged the Government to suspend controls on industrial and commercial building as one of the measures to alleviate the construction industry's pressing problems.

In a detailed letter to Mr Anthony Crossland, Secretary of State for the Environment, the National Federation of Building Trades Employers has underlined the gravity of the situation now facing the industry, where unemployment is running around 250,000 and still rising.

The federation expressed its concern at the serious disruption to the country's housing programme, because of party political considerations. Apart from the plea to ease controls on industrial and commercial construction, the NFBE has called for a reversal of the current decline in the levels of money available through grants for the improvement of existing houses.

The NFBE has also requested the "safeguarding" of public expenditure in relation to the construction of roads, schools, and a variety of other public sector construction programmes.

## Builders call for suspension of controls

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Correspondent

Leaders of the building industry have urged the Government to suspend controls on industrial and commercial building as one of the measures to alleviate the construction industry's pressing problems.

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## Former Franklin Bank officials on indictment

New York, Aug. 13.—A 76-count criminal indictment was brought today against two former directors and six former officers of the collapsed Franklin National Bank and its holding company, Franklin New York Corporation.

A Federal Grand Jury in New York charged the men with misappropriating more than \$30m (about £14.3m) of the bank's funds, mostly by unauthorized speculation in foreign exchange which at one point put the bank in a "short position" exceeding \$400m.

The men, who are also charged with conspiracy to defraud the government, include Signor Carlo Bordini, a Milan banker and close associate of the Italian financier, Signor Michele Sindona.

—AP-Dow Jones.

Italy and Britain top EEC strikes record  
Brussels, Aug. 13.—Italy, Britain and Ireland have the worst record among EEC member states for industrial disputes, according to figures published today by the European Commission.

During the past six years British industry has suffered most from the number of working days lost on two occasions. In 1971 more than 13,500,000 working days were lost out of an EEC total of 37 million, and in 1972 nearly 24 million out of a Community-wide total of nearly 45 million working days.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Slumping Superdeal

From Mr J. Mortimer  
Sir, Readers of Times Business News are no doubt grateful to Mr Lionel Altmann for presenting the motor dealers' case.

As President of the Motor Agents Association, Mr Altmann's allegiances are clear. Even presumably to the extent of supporting the 1,500 or so members of his 18,000 strong association who do sell foreign cars and who, no doubt, are subject to the exhortations of the Secretary Peter Shore to search their consciences not to support imports.

Naturally, I will not retract my views. And judging from those who share them these are not so out-of-date as Mr Altmann would like to think. They are in any case supported by the latest figures of July registrations published by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Sales of British cars in July were 38,662—10,714 less than in July, 1974. British Leyland sales were down by 654. Yet what happened to the importers? They managed to sell an extra 4,000 cars.

If dealers selling British cars are as aggressive as Mr Altmann claims why then did they not obtain the extra potential sales on the market instead of letting them fall into the hands of importers?

The object of this campaign is to secure a 38 per cent market share for British Leyland's cars and regain market leadership from total imports. British Leyland's market share now stands at 32 per cent and

dealers claim they are short of certain British Leyland models in the Superdeal campaign. Imports including delivery of which in some cases are not due till October or November, will outside the period of Superdeal.

There are several interesting aspects of Superdeal. The campaign awards for dealers are such that not all cars traded in for British Leyland cars enjoy quite the same cash bonus.

For example, for trading in a Ford a dealer gets £50 which the customer has a Chrysler or Vauxhall car when the dealer gets nothing in pass on. And that customer does not get such a Superdeal.

This is, of course, aggression on the part of the manufacturer—not on the part of the dealer. Incidentally all sales in excess of target qualify the dealer for a further cash payment of £75. But the targets are not outrageously large. Simply the agreed sales objective for the coming months of August-September.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MORTIMER,  
Editor,  
The Engineer,  
30 Colderwood Street,  
Woolwich, London SE18.

### Inflation accounting may boost state loss

From Mr H. Toth  
Sir, The annual re-nationalisation industry losses

although a number of nations have been of one has yet suggested new conventions of ing for inflation" me play a considerable p creating these loss prices, which gives r their inflation and losses.

This comes about ways: First, by revaluing like for like replace the charge for deprec be increased substa one includes future creases in wage b erosion known as inflation feeds into the accounting has the e in a rapidly in period.

Second, the disly tween capital and expenditure is diffi many cases a ratio ment, as the Royal C on Wealth reduced, ing some capital e to trading and prof accounts, a further i inflationary screw la So now that we a price restrict about using the tms to look at the u effects of our acco ventions and tax law HENRY TOOTH,

Senior Lecturer, Department of Accounting and Taxation, School of Business St City of London Polytechnic, London, EC2.

idea for PO to save mor  
From Mr S. Porteus  
Sir, May I suggest the columns an idea for S Ryan in his searh nites in running the t

Once a year telep scribers in France re their quarterly acc the PTT a voucher from post office a copy of phone directory for the members of the organisation appoint scientists and technologists to their respective boards, with authority and not just responsibility.

Yours faithfully,  
R. H. FERRIN,  
R. J. NASH,  
The Engineer,  
52 Park Avenue,  
Birmingham B9.

Business appointments  
Sime Darby London names chi  
man and managing director of Lowell and Christmas (Northern), has retired after 48 years with the company and is succeeded as managing director by Mr George Newell.

Mr Kenneth Darby becomes managing director of Lodge Cottrell.

Mr Austin Pilkington has been named financial director of Crosby Valve & Engineering and Harman-Liter.

The South African Wine Farmers Association (London) has acquired the share capital of Edward Cavendish & Sons, a private company which has not previously traded. Appointed directors of the company are: Mr R. B. Stokes-Rees (chairman); Mr J. M. Evans (managing); Mr R. C. C. Damsel and Mr R. E. Howell (also secretary).

Good Relations City and Press Information Services, also trading as Spectrum, have merged their operations and will trade in future as Good Relations City. Mr John Cullis, managing director of FRIS, succeeds Mr David Lewis as managing director of Good Relations City. Mr Lewis becomes deputy chairman.

Henderson Administration has formed an association with Mackay-Shields Financial Corporation. Mr G. J. B. Grant and Mr A. B. Henderson have joined the board of Mackay-Shields, while Mr G. Mackay has joined the board of Henderson Administration.

Mr A. C. Tomkins has joined the board of Naway-Goodall Group.

Mr Stanley Sheppard, formerly managing director of Europa Insurance and Europ Assistance, has now joined J. Perry (Holiday Insurance).

Mr Francis Harper has been appointed general manager of Cateron Commercial Vehicles. Mr Gerard Horton-Jones is the new financial controller of Van Rensen Abrasive Supplies.

Mr G. R. G. Stewart is to succeed Mr Victor McKee as reary of the Institute of Accountants of S. Ben October 1, 1976. Mr McKee succeeds the Association of Bus lines is to be M. J. Amisult, who succeeds G. G. G.

Mr John Reader, appointed general manager Systems, part of Messrs. communications.

The Williams group. Mr W. B. Shelton, director of its new Iranian company, Wiles. Mr L. F. Vye, Mr James and Mr W. R. G. joined the board of E Company Holdings.

Mr Simon Bait has a director of Wills Fal ory Services.

Mr Noel E. H. Taylor, property adviser to the Pension Scheme.

Mr P. J. Burtos, made managing director Precision Castings.

Mr R. E. Ayres be from director-general, the Heaton, Greater Conditional Manufacturer istina.

Mr M. C. Dever has joined the board of The Trust because of overseas commitments. Mr R. N. J. the board of Owen & R. Mr R. J. Henderson, the board of Owen & R. Mr Charles Kell has been a director of Harrington Advertising (IMB).

Mr Norman Haycock, once a director of Best Finance, has been elected Tony Hardcastle Processing Management in succession.

Abury.

Mr Andrew Atwell has been a non-executive director.

Mr Neville Bowker has been a director of Bantley W. Mr Peter Keddie has been a chairman of John W. Brother.

### Industrial films

## Random selection shows medium's versatility

Moving pictures are arguably the most powerful of all communication media, and almost any random selection of sponsored films serves to demonstrate the versatility of the medium.

Marketing is one of the obvious sponsor motivations, and we have *This is your Guinness*, a straightforward 15-minute account of what goes to the brewing of the beverage, as a simple example, and *Burke on Point* as another, somewhat more elaborate. The point is ICI's Dulux Silthane Silk, introduced by James Burke in the Burke Special format; shot on video, it is available in video cassette or 16mm film in the full 20-minute version, and in a 9-minute abbreviation in 8mm cassette.

Marketing shades into PR. *The Strongest Link* (32 minutes) from the Building Societies Association, is a pleasant relaxed account of a day in the life of a not overworked building society branch manager (it had a gold award at Brighton). And *All Together Now, Lads ex-*

plains Taylor Woodrow's trade mark: in 27 minutes you learn about rug of war as a highly organized sport—including rubber stamped thighs after the weigh in.

The British Tourist Authority and British Railways Board sponsored *Age of Invention* (24 minutes) to encourage foreign visitors—and natives—to leave the tourist track and look at the surviving relics, unfamiliar to most of us, of the industrial revolution throughout Britain. Fascinating stuff—and incidentally Edgar Anstey's swansong in British transport films (Hitchcock, fashion, he appears briefly in person).

Then there's a series of four films, 56 minutes in all, from Shell, *How an Aeroplane Flies*, made to replace the 1947 films that have remained in constant demand for their close on 30 years life. This is unadorned instruction, very well done, obviously not primarily for lay audiences, but any layman who has wondered how exactly his plane gets aloft would find the answer here.

Note the common factor appearing: information. You get it in recruiting films, albeit they inevitably look on the bright side (but never dishonestly if the films are to do a useful job).

*Administrator's World*, for instance, from the Institute of Chartered Secretaries (18 minutes), tells us that chartered secretaries can find themselves in a very wide variety of administrative jobs, ranging a long way beyond what most of us think of as a secretary's work; and a brace of bank films, *A Family Business* (19 minutes) from National Westminster and *Jenny's Diary* (15 minutes) from Midland, give us the outline of what goes on behind the counter. All three competent and unexaggerated, with a plus for the girl who plays Jenny.

Information is of course one of the principal strengths of the medium, very well done, and the GLC used the medium intelligently in a 20-minute film *Turning the Tide* to explain the growing danger of Thames flooding and the work in hand

on the barrier at Woolwich which by 1979 should make London safe.

In this area the Central Office of Information is in the nature of things, a regular practitioner, and *The Losers and Drive Carefully Darling* added a silver and a bronze award respectively to the Brighton score. The first, made for the Home Office, takes 16 minutes to show us a series of brief case histories of people whose cars or their contents are stolen through their own carelessness.

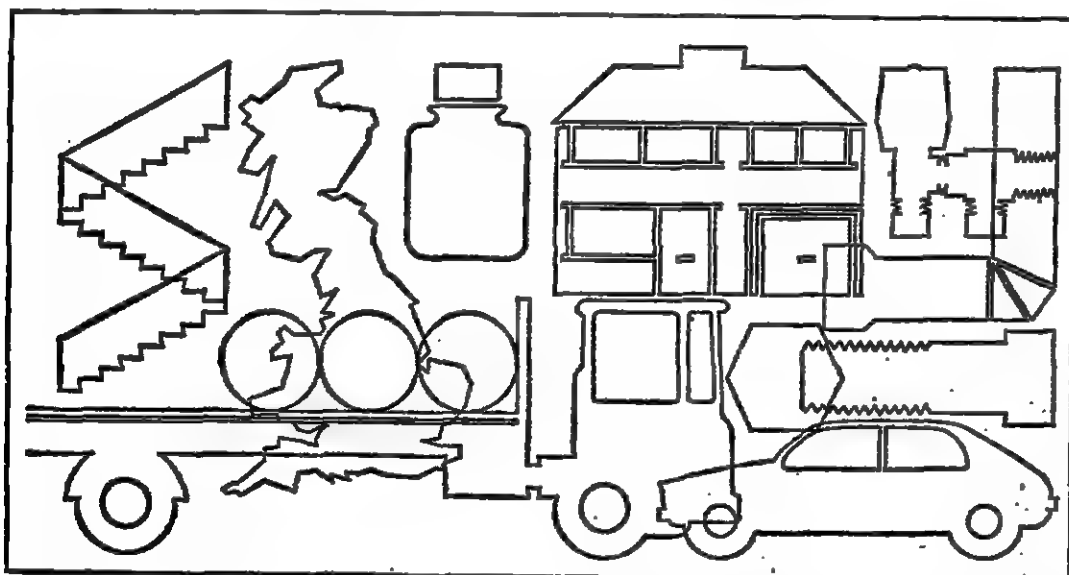
The second, for the Department of the Environment, a more imaginative effort, gives us 16 minutes of road hazards seen through the car driver's control room, which is manned by Brain, Memory and Ego, with Ego playing his obvious and ultimately catastrophic part.

Selling, recruitment, instruction, public relations, public service: a mixed bag with a message—that film is a vehicle of infinite variety.

Eyoun Smart

## Glynwed Limited Interim Statement

52 weeks ending 27th December, 1975



### Trading Results

Group profit before tax for the first six months of 1975 amounted to £5.285m compared with £8.452m for the corresponding period of 1974.

Despite the recession in most of the industries in which the Group operates, the building and consumer products divisions maintained the same overall level of profitability as in the first six months of 1974, the consumer durables in fact showing some improvement.

On the other side of the Group's activities steel re-rolling and engineering also produced somewhat higher figures than in the comparable period but the world-wide recession in steel production and demand has inevitably been reflected in a reduction in profitability in steel stockholding.

The South African subsidiary suffered from a sharp reduction in the level of building activity and contributed only a small profit at the half year stage.

In the Chairman's Statement which accompanied the Accounts for 1974 it was indicated that this year efforts would be concentrated on generating cash; for the first six months the Group was ahead of cash budget and at the end of June was operating comfortably within the facilities available.

### Ordinary Dividends and Prospects

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend for the 52 weeks ending 27th December, 1975 of 2.45p per share (1974: 2.45p) payable on 22nd December, 1975 to Ordinary shareholders on the Register at close of business on 5th September, 1975.

Present estimates indicate that profits for the second six months of 1975 should be about the same as those for the first six months. In these circumstances the Directors expect to recommend a final dividend equivalent to that for 1974.

The unaudited results of the Group for the 26 weeks ended 28th June, 1975 together with the published figures for the corresponding period of the previous year and the final audited figures for the 52 weeks ended 28th December, 1974 are summarised below:—

	1975 26 weeks to 28th June	1974 26 weeks to 28th June	1974 52 weeks to 28th December
Turnover of the Group	£'000 103,605	£'000 107,397	£'000 208,351
Group Trading Profit	5,907	9,345	17,493
Debt interest and Loan Stock Interest	622	893	1,783
Group Profit before Taxation	5,285	8,452	15,710
Taxation	2,556	4,328	8,282
Group Profit after Taxation	2,729	4,128	7,428
Extraordinary Items	—	—	410
Profit attributable to Minority Interests (1975—Loss)	9	7	114
Profit attributable to Glynwed Limited	2,738	4,119	6,904
Dividends:—			
5.425% (formerly 7%) Preference	35	35	70
Ordinary—Interim 2.45p per share	1,149 2.45p	1,143 2.45p	1,143
Final	—	—	3,828p 1,787

### Notes:

U.K. Taxation on the profits of the 26 weeks ended 28th June, 1975 has been estimated on the basis of 62% Corporation Tax (1974—same). Overseas Taxation has been estimated at the appropriate rate.

**GLYNWED**

Dudley Road West, Tividale, Warley, West Midlands, B69 2PH.

## THE NOTTINGHAM MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED

Interim Report for the six months ended 30th June 1975

Group Profit (unaudited) for the six months ended 30th June is as follows:

	6 months 1975	6 months 1974	Year 1974
Turnover	£33,313,000	£30,841,000	£75,285
Profit before Taxation	£2,150,000	£3,475,000	£8,171
Profit on trading	—	—	—
Interest Receivable and Income from Quoted Investments	550,000	562,000	1,022
Less: Interest on 6 1/2% Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock 1963/93	2,700,000	4,037,000	9,193
	366,000	390,000	759
	£2,334,000	£3,647,000	£8,434
Profit after Taxation at 52%	£1,120,000	£1,751,000	£4,035

Turnover and profit for the first six months of the year are normally, due to seasonal factors, less than those of the second six months.

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend of 3.015% (75375p per share) which against a comparable rate of 4.5% paid as an Interim Dividend for 1974. The Interim Dividend, requiring £390,693, will be payable on 2nd December 1975 to shareholders on the Register on 3rd November 1975.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Unilever moving into the recovery phase

After a fairly rough patch weeks back, the Unilever price has recently been steadily outperforming the market. And at this stage there is good reason to expect a trend to continue. A prospective p/e (at which could well be a more or less average) for even Unilever now looks to have no chance of catching up with the £33m pre-tax for the 12 months, it still is heading for some £40m. The second-half profits up £140m to around £20m, strong base on which to build in 1976.

The main impetus in the price is going to come, from this year's sharp rise in commodity prices. These are some of the points in June, many are down by something like 50 per cent from last September's peaks. The benefits should be starting to flow through to the bottom line. In a big way, the demand looks to be coming up again in areas like food, while ice cream is still having a very good run. At least in Northern Ireland, this is in conjunction with the continuing good performance from the United States and the other major markets outside Europe and North America and the confidence in the company's prospects. And as the improvements continue, the prospects in sterling become that much better.

Several of the problems such as rawling and the interest, may take some time to sort themselves out. It may also be some time before the cycle turns up once again. But the prospects for the chemical and packaging industries are now under control and the market is now waiting to see how effective Royal's cutbacks in the United States have been.

**Interim 1975 (1974)**  
Capitalization £125m  
Net written premiums £225.3m  
(£188.1m)  
Pre-tax profits £5.4m (£16.4m)  
Dividend gross 4.35p (4.03p)

**Carrington Viyella**  
Deep in the trough

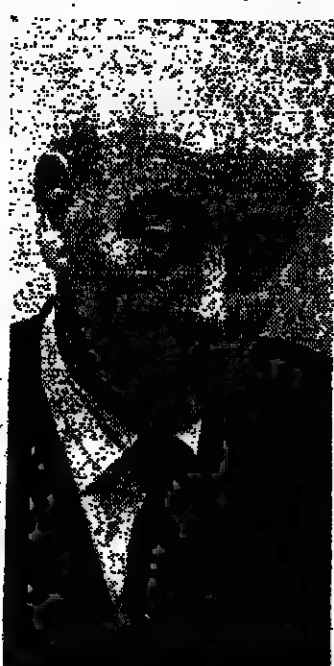
If there is one thing that is worse than a recession that is nasty, brutish and short, it is one that promises to be nasty, brutish and long. Yesterday's results from Carrington and Corah reflected what is generally reckoned to be the nadir in the textile cycle in North America in the form of some hefty losses.

But that leaves the United Kingdom divisions of both companies suffering fairly modest drops in profits by comparison, yet looking increasingly as though they are starting off rather than reflecting the evil day. Carrington's United Kingdom profits fell from £4.5m to £2.4m after losing ground by an estimated £1m in the first quarter due to restocking. While the second quarter was obviously an improvement, this could have been due entirely to some gentle rebuilding of the pipeline had been expected.

But the group itself, which has been operating at production levels only slightly higher than those during the three-day week, seems quietly confident and reckons that it could take a further fall of up to 5 per cent in the volume of retail sales without finding itself in any worse a position than it already is.

Meanwhile, Carrington points out that it has managed to cut £1.4m out of its working capital since the last year, which, given inflation, looks creditable. But it is a drop in the ocean as far as the total of over £80m is concerned and perhaps underlines the admitted need for the group to manage some kind of equity funding over the next couple of years in order both to finance the next textile upturn and expand the equity base in view of the uncomfortably high level of borrowings.

Assuming a maintained dividend (and that is anybody's guess), the yield works out at a well above average 14.3 per



Mr. David Orr, chairman of Unilever, starting to see the benefit of lower commodity prices

cent, which, the weak balance sheet notwithstanding, appears to be some kind of a buying signal for more adventurous investors.

**Interim: 1975 1974**  
Capitalization £25.2m  
Sales £113m (£99m)  
Pre-tax profits £1.3m (£4.5m)  
Dividend gross 0.75p (0.75p)

**BPB Industries**

Into the bull ring

It took a little bit of courage for BPB Industries to venture into the rights issue bull ring after the summary dispatch of English Property Corporation and the mauling received by Tate & Lyle. So the fact that the announcement of a one-for-four issue at 68p to 86p (convertible loan stock holders are being offered 31 new shares for every £200 nominal) was greeted in the market with an 84p fall in the share price to 86p came as little surprise.

Behind the issue lies a rise in working capital requirements and a capital expenditure programme that has risen from £10.2m to £10.2m and with some prospect of increasing still further. And in this context borrowings, which are little changed from the £30m net at the year-end, have to be set against shareholdings of £42m.

Meanwhile, the trading front there is reassurance both in the swing round into profit by the Canadian subsidiary and news of an encouraging improvement for the group as a whole during the first four months.

And this would seem to suggest that the company's pre-tax profits for the year, rising from £11.6m to at least £12.1m where the prospective p/e ratio is around 7 (just right).

The yield, again post rights, of 11.4 per cent does have its attractions. But the suggestion which has shown an acceptable growth record over the past decade. But there is also a speculative undertone with a possible predator looking for United Kingdom earnings to offset its ACT problems.

**Ultramar**  
On target so far

Ultramar has matched market expectations in producing second quarter profits in line with the first quarter's. They were £5.14m (pre-tax) against £5.18m. And the suggestion that second half profits may not match the first half figure of £10.32m will appear to leave Ultramar plenty of scope to improve on last year's total of £15.74m, as it suggested it would do earlier.

Against that, it is hard to see why the shares ended yesterday 5p down compared to a general rise in oil stocks. Arguably though the price has recently been supported by bid rumours as well as by trading prospects, and the market may feel starved of news just now on that front.

Ultramar's argument that the Quebec refinery is worth around \$200m, or about twice its book value, has clearly been a factor here.

The Indonesian gas/oil interests as the other interesting part of the asset equation, though so far as earnings are concerned they are yielding at the lower end of analysts' expectations, at 11,000 barrels a day. However, Indonesia looks like having an increasing impact on earnings this year, as on that basis, the prospective p/e is probably below 4. The only caveat against such projections is that the Canadian oil market seems currently more problematical than other parts of the world, and the cause of trade restrictions and product price controls.

**Interim: 1975 (1974)**  
Capitalization £64m  
Sales £106m (£129m)  
Pre-tax profits £10.32m (£10.24m)

Peter Readman concludes his two-part article on new sources of company finance

## Institutions and long-term risk capital

If one accepts that British industry needs new investment and this would involve a significant proportion of risk capital, which has not been provided in sufficient quantities, then one of the key questions is who—if anybody—is going to fill the gap?

There are only three possibilities: Either the government can intervene, the savings institutions can take up the challenge, or both can attempt a joint solution.

Certain members of the present Government have already indicated their desire to intervene in this field, but there are two major problems—conflict of interest and limited capacity. The first is important if only because its validity is not often recognized by politicians.

Successive governments' records as investors of taxpayers' money in industry have been prejudiced by their frequent need to alter key economic variables, such as pricing policy for macro-economic reasons, as well as to secure short term political advantage. Added to this is a feeling among some politicians that the Treasury is an endless money tree providing taxpayers' money supplemented by domestic or international borrowings to bolster up commercial firms which have no commercial future.

The recent decision on Norton Villiers Triumph is a sign of the times and is a reflection of the second major problem of the Government's. The money tree has stopped growing as the effects of inflation and a mild growth economy increase the Government's deficit month by month.

The Government already faces a massive "estimated" £3,000m borrowing requirement to supplement its tax revenue for this year's spending, and it is unlikely that this will be enough. Any question therefore of spending more money to assist private sector investment is academic. Apart, therefore, from any credibility gap, the Government simply does not have the funds or indeed access to the funds required to make a significant impact.

It seems clear that this was in the minds of those responsible for suggesting that savings institutions should channel a proportion of their funds into the National Enterprise Board.

This would indeed enable the NEB to extend its involvement in private industry and would provide the potential structure for a joint solution. But such action would immediately give the Government power over investment decisions now made in the City on the basis of commercial criteria and would be likely to have a detrimental effect on Britain's free market financial system.

Many would argue that this joint solution is the most desirable, but few in the City would agree and for the very good reason that the multitude of skills required for making sound investment decisions are to be found in the square mile and not Whitehall.

The City undoubtedly has many of the skills required even if it is, as its critics suggest, weak on industrial knowledge. It also has substantial funds, not limitless, funds at its disposal. The savings institutions, comprising the pension funds, insurance companies, unit and investment trusts, receive approximately £5,500m of householders' savings each year and these are the only large source of uncommitted funds in the economy.

The Diamond Commission Report reflected that the institutions are already the largest investors in industrial equities and are gradually taking over from the private investor whose share of equity holdings has dropped from 59 per cent in 1963 to 42 per cent in 1973. As the institutions are already so heavily invested in equities it is not unreasonable to suggest that their own long-term growth and viability are inextricably linked with the long-term growth and viability of British industry.

Therefore, the lack of equity funds is one of the factors inhibiting industrial growth, it is arguably in the enlightened self-interest of the savings institutions to do something about it. Although their records as investors of other people's money has come in for severe criticism of late, the results have been nothing like as bad as that of governments.

At the end of May, Sr Celestino Rodriguez was appointed Minister of the Economy and started to put into effect an economic policy that even IMF officials could not fault.

He devalued the peso by about 100 per cent. To put an end to the artificial and economically damaging boom in consumer spending, he removed the control over prices that the government had exercised since May 1973, in order to let the prices of all but a few basic items find their own market level.

Perhaps most unpopular of all was Sr Rodriguez's determination to hold wage increases to a ceiling of 40 per cent, although inflation had reached 75 per cent in the first five months of the year alone.

These measures and the subsequent rocketing increase in the cost of living provoked militant strikes all over the country, with industrial activity paralysed. President Isabel Peron was forced to authorize wage increases of up to 135 per cent. A few days later, after devaluing the peso again by 16 per cent, Sr Rodriguez went too.

Senior Celso's predecessor as Minister of the Economy, Sr Pedro Bonanini, did not announce any new plan for the country's "economic salvation" during his first weeks of office. The steps he took were merely essential pragmatic measures, such as the freeing of exports of cotton, wool, leather and some manufactured articles and the banning of imports of about 100 products, ranging from zinc to ski equipment.

And with much greater political perspicacity than Sr

that the best solution for the long-term interest of the country is to persuade the institutions, whose own interests are tied to the long-term success of British industry, to take up the challenge. It is also worth bearing in mind that the source of whatever funds are made available to industry is ultimately the private individual, whether through his voluntary contributions to savings institutions or his involuntary tax payments to the government.

On the evidence publicly available his interests in this vital area of stimulating private sector investment will be served better by the savings institutions than by government.

This is the background to the discussions which have been taking place during recent weeks. The strong arm tactics of compelling institutions to contribute a proportion of their new cash flow to a government institution such as the NEB have been set aside in favour of the more constructive approach of attempting to explain to these arm-carrying institutions the nature of the problem and asking them to contribute their own ideas.

Many suggestions have been put forward from various quarters but the detailed result, if there is to be one, will be in the private sector, will have to depend on the commercial requirements of the institutions in the light of their obligations to shareholders, pensioners and policyholders. Any private sector solution to a private sector problem should therefore be restricted to commercially viable companies and projects which for some reason are not being financed by banks or other sources.

There are, however, a number of general points which can be made about any institutional attempt to fill the equity gap. If this analysis is correct, the need has emerged for the institutions to provide on a continuing basis an additional source of long term risk capital for manufacturing companies with a profitable future.

In order to accomplish this a single fund, or series of funds, must be set up. It would be a management team under the leadership of a respected industrialist/financier.

Whether such a management team would be asked to involve itself in the types of problems the institutional Shareholders' Committee faces is another matter, but certainly

1970-1974, and such a figure would represent less than 5 per cent of estimated institutional cash flow for 1975.

It would, however, be important for all the savings institutions to participate, as this would avoid any rivalry between those who do and those who do not participate, and also enable contributions to be spread fairly between all. It would also be sensible to set a target of, say, £250m—one of the most recently mentioned figures—but only draw down that volume of funds which would be used relatively quickly.

If by chance the demand for such equity funds failed to materialize, there should be no hesitation about concluding the exercise and returning the excess funds to the institutions. This would therefore be very much a "try and see" initiative, but if demand was strong and the institutions satisfied with the investments being made on their behalf, then it should be possible to increase the size of the fund.

The fund could operate as an underwriter, as a subscriber for rights issues or new issues, as an investor in private placements and as a joint venture partner with a company for a specific project. It is unlikely it would use its resources to buy the existing equity of companies as the NEB aims to do, but would rather put forward a package of bank, medium term and equity finance within a specific period of time.

Whether or not the institutions will feel able to respond to such a challenge is an open question. There are many good reasons for them not to do so. The first is that it would be more an act of faith than a balanced commercial decision, as recent governments have given little indication that they understand the true role of profits. Without this understanding there is no reason to suppose that investment through a specialized fund will be any more successful than through normal channels.

Indeed, many would argue that there will be higher risks attached to this centre, and therefore rewards in the form of dividends will have to be higher. It is also open to question whether governments will be in a position to reconsider their short term approach to economic planning; it is this more than anything else which is the reason behind the short-term consideration the city applies to investment.

But if the savings institutions can take such an initiative to co-operate with industry in this way, they would at least be seen to be responding to a national problem. And there is at least a chance that their joint efforts would contribute to a reversal of the current decline in manufacturing industry, to a degree which is disproportionately large when compared to the amounts of equity involved.

The alternative, if government, city and industry continue to work independently of each other, is for that decline to continue to accelerate.

worthy of consideration at a later stage.

Such a fund would in no way be a replacement for any of the existing financial mechanisms. The primary market of the Stock Exchange would continue to operate as the major source of new equity finance, and any new fund would merely provide additional capacity to supply equity at those times when share prices are low, and at all times for viable projects which do not fit traditional market criteria.

The management of the fund would also have to work closely with the banks and PFI, so as to provide industrialists with the opportunity to negotiate a package of bank, medium term and equity finance within a specific period of time.

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## Argentina: running out of time, money and options

Argentina's new Economics Minister, Sr Antonio Cafiero, faces daunting problems. Last week the Export Credit Guarantees Department restricted insurance to short-term business, and the United States-Brazil Economic Environment Risk Index now gives the country only 40.6 of 100, labelling it a "highly dangerous zone".

In just a year since the death of President Peron, Argentina's economic situation has deteriorated dramatically. Its most pressing problem is its foreign debt of about £10,000m, of which \$3,000m is due to be redeemed this year. Foreign reserves have been dropping and are now worth only \$600m, of which only \$180m is readily available.

The repercussions on the domestic economy have been considerable. To economists, the foreign currency to the maximum, the government has severely cut back on imports. This has created a serious shortage of raw materials and essential components for Argentinean industry, led to a fall in industrial domestic output, and a shortage of investment capital and resulted in considerable unemployment.

Added to this is the fact that Argentina's capacity for earning foreign currency has diminished substantially with the unprecedented fall in her exports, which are down to about one quarter of their value two years ago.

One way out of the crisis, as the last minister of the economy admitted, would be to negotiate a subordinated loan from the International Monetary Fund.

At the end of May, Sr Celestino Rodriguez was appointed Minister of the Economy and started to put into effect an economic policy that even IMF officials could not fault.

He devalued the peso by about 100 per cent. To put an end to the artificial and economically damaging boom in consumer spending, he removed the control over prices that the government had exercised since May 1973, in order to let the prices of all but a few basic items find their own market level.

Perhaps most unpopular of all was Sr Rodriguez's determination to hold wage increases to a ceiling of 40 per cent, although inflation had reached 75 per cent in the first five months of the year alone.

These measures and the subsequent rocketing increase in the cost of living provoked militant strikes all over the country, with industrial activity paralysed. President Isabel Peron was forced to authorize wage increases of up to 135 per cent. A few days later, after devaluing the peso again by 16 per cent, Sr Rodriguez went too.

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And with much greater political perspicacity than Sr

Rodrigo, he was consulting the country's most powerful groups.

During this period, the country's economic and social situation deteriorated. Inflation reached 35 per cent in July, making a total of 133 per cent for the first seven months of the year.

With their slender resources, companies have chosen to pay their workers wages rather than government taxes. It is estimated that some two million workers did not receive their wages at the end of July simply because the companies did not have the cash available.

Furthermore, about 250,000 workers lost their jobs in the last fortnight of July, and many small and medium-sized firms have gone bankrupt.

On August 8, Bonanini finally announced some important economic measures, based on the plan that the CGT had presented to him. A state of economic emergency has been decreed for 90 days. Companies will not be allowed to dismiss workers nor to reduce the length of the working day. Prices of essential goods were also frozen. There will be a large increase in the number

of loans available to the small and medium-sized companies. Another devaluation, of 20 per cent, was announced Saturday.

Time will tell whether the concessions that the Government, under the new economics minister's influence, is prepared to make are sufficient to diminish worker discontent and, secondly, whether the Government has the economic strength to push ahead with its own solutions, in fact of growing disapproval from powerful groups abroad.

Sue Branford



## Carrington Viyella Ltd

### INTERIM STATEMENT

The Directors of Carrington Viyella Limited announce the following unaudited results for the Group for the six months to 30th June, 1975:

	1975	1974
	£'000	£'000
Sales to External Customers	113,134	98,504
Trading Profit:- U.K. Companies	4,250	4,369
Overseas Companies	(278)	1,923
Profit before Depreciation	7,774	8,745
Depreciation	(3,398)	(2,850)
Profit after Depreciation	4,416	6,895
Investment Income	42	18
Interest Payable	(2,621)	(2,404)
Profit before Taxation	1,837	4,509
Taxation	(822)	(2,168)
Profit after Taxation	1,014	2,343
Interest of Minorities	96	(136)
Preference Dividend	(256)	(256)
Profit attributable to Ordinary Shareholders	854	1,951
Net Cost of Ordinary Dividend after adjusting for ACT 35% (1974 33%)	682	703

1. During the period the Directors continued their strict programme of control of working capital. Due to de-stocking in the retail trade, short time working was experienced in most areas of the U.K. business during the first three months causing loss of profits of around £1.0m. The second quarter showed an improved trading position although pressure on margins continued.

The overseas companies, with the exception of the South African operation, showed losses for the first three months. There was some improvement in all areas in the second quarter.

Although external sales increased by 9% compared with the second half of 1974, working capital (stocks and debtors less creditors) showed a reduction of £1.4m from the year end. Capital expenditure during the period was £5.3m.

2. External sales were 15% ahead of the same period in 1974.

The U.K. companies produced a trading profit of £4.3m compared with £5.0m for the first half of 1974. The overseas companies, however, showed a trading loss of £0.3m compared with a profit of £1.9m.

Overall, pre-tax profits showed a reduction of 59%.

3. The economic climate in this country, particularly the future level of retail sales, gives cause for concern, but the U.K.

companies expect to maintain their position in the market. The outlook for the overseas companies in the second half is more encouraging.

4. In accordance with Group accounting policies, credit has been taken in the half year for net exchange profits. The actual figure for the half year was a profit of £323,000, but due to uncertainty as to the future value of sterling only £150,000 has been taken into account.

5. Dividends paid and payable on the Preference Shares are:-

	Cost £'000	1975	1974
4.55% on 6% Cumulative Preference Shares	255	255	
5.50% on 8% Cumulative Preference Shares	258	258	
	513	513	

6. The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 0.4875p per share on the Ordinary Share Capital of the Company, which, after adjusting for the related tax credit, is at the same rate as in 1974. In previous years the interim dividend has been paid in November, but, in order to minimise the amount of irrecoverable ACT, the Directors have decided to pay the interim dividend on 1st January, 1976.

## Business Diary: Sime Darby day • Storey time

business of restructuring Darby's management. In view of the recent which of the former chair, Dennis Pinder, a year and a ago has been a protracted. The latest in a steady stream of departures and also is the appointment of Waring as managing director of Sime Darby London, appointment that will see the many Sime Darby

being is an English-born infant who was educated in India, and is most recently finance director of Coated Plantations, one of the important and profitable divisions of Sime Darby. At 35, he is regarded as a rising star. It had been widely expected that Sime Darby London was being run down. The man had been formed to be Clive Discount and to head Pinder's growth ambitions in Europe, ambitions seemed to have ended with departure of Pinder.

Indeed, the London end of the group looked something of an armchair. After August left his post as London director to the group in November, 1973, proceedings for recovery of money were by some group company only to be withdrawn upon joint by Scott of an agreed amount. Meanwhile, the Bank of Sime Darby to

disengage from Clive, something that was achieved in June this year when 85 per cent of its holdings was floated to the public.

Waring's appointment suggests that Sime Darby has far from forsaken its ambitions in Europe; however, how long, then, before we see Sime Darby again doing some deals.

### HAC issue

The Department of the Environment's massive on high alumina cement may bring tidings of great joy to house and flatowners, but it doesn't do much for the commercial developer, since one of the reservations is that buildings should not be more than four stories tall.

The big problem for the developers, apart from the risk of somebody being hurt, has been: who is to pay for any remedial work that might be necessary in the event of the Government issuing new instructions?

MEPC, for example, faced some haggling with tenants before the opening of its Brent Cross shopping centre development in north London earlier this year.

Meanwhile, although developers themselves have been reluctant to discuss the business implications of the HAC scare, the chartered surveyors involved in office development

have been obliged to include the issue in their calculations.

An example of this is to hand in the offer document from Granada for Barranquilla Investments, which finds Healey & Baker cautiously commenting that as far as they know—HAC had been used only in two of Barranquilla's dozen properties, the Direct Trade, was arguing that government should make it unlawful for estate agents to misrepresent their wares "knowingly or recklessly" and adding that he would consult the relevant associations.

Fenau was addressing a conference of the Canadian Institute of Association Executives, and his remarks were followed by a discussion chaired by Paul Queneau, secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Telecommunications Carriers Association, in which the need for associations to be more internationally-minded was stressed. But that will take time.

Whatever the rights and wrongs of the self-regulation issue, does in fact that government feel it necessary to exercise such power say more about government or about trade associations?

The three maintain that the official request for recognition was based on membership of 1,055 and not 2,700, co-operatives of which 919 were housing co-operatives founded mainly to take advantage of subsidies for popular housing.

protest" against the recognition by the Labour Minister of a fourth, the Unione Nazionale Cooperative Italiana.

The three existing movements have long histories and, though different in political outlook, collaborate closely in practice. They are the "White" Catholic Confederazione Nazionale delle Cooperative (grouping about 11,000 cooperatives), the Red mainly Communist Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative (about 10,000), and the "Green" Republican Associazione Nazionale delle Cooperative (about 2,300). Together, they have a joint commission advising the Labour Ministry.

Now, on the basis of the law on co-operatives of 1947, the Unione has managed to secure official recognition, maintaining that it groups about 2,700 co-operatives and that there is plenty of room for a new body outside existing ideological and political frameworks.

Describing the recognition as "particularly grave", the joint commission now claims that the Unione had failed to meet the necessary requisites of the 1947 law and would act as a splinter force among unity-minded movements.

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### Uncooperative

The knives are out in the Italian cooperative world, with the three existing movements having announced "a vibrant



## Burt Boulton Holdings Ltd.

(Timber, Road Materials, Etc.)

Summary of Results Year to 31st March	1975 £000's	1974 £000's
Turnover:	32,486	33,384
Trading profit and income of the Group, before charging:	2,294	3,286
Depreciation, Debenture and other interest:	1,941	726
Additional Pension Fund Payments:	—	291
Provision for forward purchases:	40	315
Group Profit before Tax:	313	1,554
Group Profit after Tax:	246	835
Dividends on Ord. Stock:	9,86p	9,295p

### In his Statement the Chairman said:

On the timber side trading remains at a low level although stocks and interest charges are already considerably lower. Our other activities have started the year well. Group policy for the current year is one of consolidation for the future.

Copies of the full Report and Accounts can be obtained from The Secretary, Broomfield House, Lancaster Place, London WC2E 7EN

## London Sumatra Plantations Limited

Issued & Paid-up Capital £1,593,171 in 10p shares

Secretaries and Agents  
Harrison & Crosfield, Limited

	Year ended	Year ended
	31.12.74	31.12.73
Profit after tax	£272,160	£394,762
Dividend for year	1.1	1.03414
— pence per share	—	—
— absorbing	£178,541	£163,056

Crops Harvested '000 kgs.	20,730	18,474
Rubber	29,588	21,643
Palm oil & kernels	354	358
Coffee	688	622
Tea	—	—

Planted acreage (subject to survey)  
Rubber, Oil Palms, Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Coconuts — 95,883

Annual General Meeting — 5th September 1975

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Recession clouds B Wardle

Recession in major customer industries, particularly motors, and pressure on margins bore heavily on the interim results of Bernard Wardle (vinyl coated fabrics). Pre-tax profits collapsed from £648,000 to only £30,000 in the half year to June 15, and scant signs of recovery are on the horizon. Turnover dropped 10 per cent to £5.45m. There is no interim dividend against 0.65p and a final will depend on the full-time results.

Mr D. A. Boothman, chairman, told members some four months ago that the company had managed to do no more than break even in the opening quarter and was likely to show only a small profit at half-year. Though it continues to operate in profit "due to maximum discipline", all areas of the business will suffer from recession for some time.

The claims referred to in his annual statement (regarding its main supplier in Germany) have recently been "amicably" settled. The resulting benefit of £168,000 will appear as an exceptional item in the full year's results.

### Rea Brothers lower

The Rea Brothers banking group reports satisfactory trading for the six months to June 30, but the uncertain economic climate and ever-increasing expenses have produced "somewhat lower" interim profits. No figures are disclosed, except the dividend. This goes up from 0.67p, adjusted for a scrip issue to 0.7p, gross.

### Bristol Water terms

Bristol Waterworks has fixed the minimum tender price on its 9 per cent redeemable preference stock issue, 1980, at £98 per cent, which is a point lower than the minimum on the

recent Newcastle issue. Some of the Newcastle stock was allocated at 99 (although the average tender was higher) and since then market conditions have deteriorated somewhat. So tender offers at 98 could get at least a partial allotment. Brokers are Seymour Pierce, and Hoare & Co.

### G. Brady jumps 59 pc and breaches £1m

It has been a fine year for G. Brady, the shutter, door and lift maker. Despite an earlier note of caution, pre-tax profits in the first half of the year to March 31 rose by 34 per cent, and for the full year the gain was as good as 59 per cent. Pre-tax profits jumped to £1.16m, pre-tax, passing the £1m mark for the first time. The net profit expanded from £336,000 to £569,000 and earnings a share from 11.5p to 15.3p on a turnover that climbed by 24 per cent to £15.3m. The total payment rises from 7.2p to 8.61p.

### Southern-Evans

At the end of a "very difficult" year, in which overstocking within the industry and falling demand combined to cut turnover by 11.6 per cent to £49.4m, and pre-tax profits by 34.3 per cent to £4.65m, Southern-Evans can boast a healthy balance-sheet. Thanks to "rigid control" of stocks and purchases, there has been a £5.78m improvement in liquidity, with short-term borrowings cut from £4.39m to £1.49m, and cash up from £73,000 to £3.18m.

Mr S. Oxford, chairman, sees little sign of an upswing in trading in 1975, but thinks that the trade should have a less difficult time with stocks. For the group itself, the year to end March 1976 should at least be as good as the one just past.

### Trianco man voted off

The annual meeting of Trianco Group yesterday heard that trading had picked up strongly after last year's

£72,000 trading loss—caused by the oil crisis on the heating side.

A poll was demanded on the resolution dealing with the 1974 report and accounts, and the re-election of Mr L. Webb and Mr T. O'Way, who were appointed to the board in June. The first two motions were passed but the vote went against Mr O'Way with 2.57m cast for, and 3m against. So Mr Webb has retired.

Mr Webb is the son of Major G. Webb, chairman of The Investment Co., which on Friday said that it had increased its stake in Trianco to nearly 2.4m shares (about 24 per cent of the equity). The other major shareholder is Central & Sheerwood Trust with 1.08m shares.

### Signs of revival seen by Inchcape

After making pre-tax profits last year of £28.1m against £30.1m, Inchcape, the international trading group, takes the view that the result was good in view of the upheaval in world trading, interest rates and commodity markets.

For the year ahead, the Earl of Inchcape, in his annual statement, takes a broadly confident view of the outlook now. Operations in the Middle East, which certain to prosper in line with continuing development in Nigeria. Elsewhere, most of the other trading areas are now showing signs of recovery, and the general outlook is one of confidence.

### HELIOS BAR

Final 1.54p making 2.53p (2.5p) for year to May 31. Net profit £101,000 (£25,000) on turnover of £5.12m (£5.11m).

### HAMBROS BANK

Bank is to receive repayment of \$3m from Ventrone Corp of US, reducing debt to Hambros to \$6m.

### HAMBROS INV TST

Dividend for year raised from 5.5p to 6.46p, gross on 14,510,000 shares. £2 holders are to have a scrip of 4.16 for every 100 shares held.

At 1 pm today, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was down by 6.34 points at 322.20. Turnover was light, being about 5.5 million shares.

Yesterday, the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 4.78 points to 328.54.

Volume totalled 14,510,000 shares, compared with 12,500,000 shares on Monday, an unusually slow day.

## Wall Street

New York, Aug 13.—On the New York Stock Exchange today, shares, virtually ignoring fresh signs that a Middle Eastern settlement may be close by, traded over a moderately lower path at the halfway mark.

	Aug 12	Aug 13	Aug 14
Alcoa	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Int'l.	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Super.	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Tel. & Tel.	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Wire	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Zinc	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Gas	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Oil	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Sugar	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Tobacco	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Water	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Electric	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Chemical	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Paper	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Textile	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Rubber	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Leather	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Glass	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Steel	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Iron	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Coal	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Lumber	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Furniture	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Food	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Beverage	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Retail	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Services	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Healthcare	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Technology	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Media	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Entertainment	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Real Estate	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Finance	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Insurance	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Utilities	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Transportation	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Communications	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Defense	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Aerospace	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Space	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Nuclear	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Environmental	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Energy	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Water	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Waste	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Recycling	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Agriculture	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Forestry	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Fishing	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Hunting	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Gaming	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Gambling	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Lottery	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Casino	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Hotel	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Restaurant	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Bar	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Club	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Convention	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Exhibition	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Fair	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Festival	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Race	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Sports	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Entertainment	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Media	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Communications	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Defense	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Aerospace	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Space	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Nuclear	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Environmental	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
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Am. Fair	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Festival	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Race	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Am. Sports	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2

— See also: A. & C. R. Shareholders, 24th St. Market, New York, N.Y. Stock Exch.

1. Traded, 2. Untraded.

3. The Dow Jones average, index.

4. New York, Aug 13.—Future closed

on short covering, but a sharp

rebound in the afternoon

ended the session with a

slight gain. The Dow Jones

closed at 322.20, up 4.78

points from 317.42. The

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Markets  
Inchcape sustains equity advance

A shortage of stock still a part share prices continue to improve in the London stock market yesterday.

A firm start there was for prices to drift upwards but fresh limitations from the half-yearly figures which were generally deemed to be better than feared.

Aids to sentiment were on the decision to broaden the nation in the battle against inflation and some about the July trade which are due to be published today. There were some institutional though to a fairly extent.

The FT Index had risen to 296.8, its highest point since the day, but with most losing some ground later in the session the gain had slipped to 294.6. In the three days of the advance a 15.8 points and at the rate of progress the stock should be touched next day or so. In a session gilt remained

or rise of 10p in shares. The Gorman Holdings price to 124p, a net 13 per cent since Monday. Institutional buyers are for prospects for the fire-fighting products in important N. American

an impressive list of among the industrial the best was, of course, which finished no less p better at 346p. But were also prominent 10p to 350p as were 203p, and Beecham 74p. More modest were 345p and Glaxo 345p which 2p and 3p respectively.

was the mood of the that unlike the Commu- on Monday poor States results from Accident were largely

discounted and the shares closed 4p further to 135p. CU was unchanged at 134p. Banks were also on the firm side with National Westminster 205p and Midland 235p several pence ahead.

Parliamentary criticism of the Ryder Report brought an initial dip to 28p in the new shares of British Leyland but a subsequent rally left the price unchanged at 30p. The extraordinary meeting of States Walker to consider loan stock proposals clipped 1p to 62p from the shares while a 28.4m rights from BFA Industries meant that the shares shed 81p to 86p compared with an offer price of 60p.

A particularly bad sector was textiles where a batch of poor results emphasized that industry's present problems. N Corah lost 3p to 16p. Nottingham Manufacturing 8p to 40p, Carrington Wydale 1p to 18p and Edward Wardle 1p to 71p.

In buildings Phoenix Timber's slump in profits left the shares 8p down to 38p and well against the trend.

Gilt continued to be a firm pitch, particularly 8p which gained 7p to 51p after being a penny firmer than that. Shell gained 3p to 322p but Ultramar's shares lost 8p to 188p.

after results. Golds reacted late in the day to lose earlier gains and closed with falls of up to 25p behind a lower metal price.

Gills were very quiet but remained firm. The easier conditions in United States money markets were a helpful influence in the background.

"Shorts" were at one stage Robb Caledon ended the day 15p down to 10p after one jobber had initially marked the shares down to 7p in an attempt to find a dealing level.

one quarter to three eighths of a point up from overnight levels.

"Longs" also were good. They opened better and were a quarter of a point higher at their best level.

Equity turnover on August 12 was £52.58m (11,322 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were ICI, Shell, BP, Barclays Bank, British American Tobacco, Westland new, Distillers, Commercial Union, Hansens Trust, Boots, Siebe Gorman, Stone, Platt, BTR, Tate & Lyle, Beecham, Pilkington Brothers and Plessey.

## Latest dividends

Company	Ord	Year	Pay	Year's	Prev
(and par values)	div	ago	date	total	year
G. Brady (25p) Fin	3.45	3.15	1/1	5.2	4.9
Cambridge (25p) Int	0.48	0.50	3/10	1.72	1.72
Cambridge (10p) Int	0.81	0.81	3/10	3.16	3.16
Corah (25p) Int	0.68	0.68	1/1	1.71	1.71
Gen Accident (25p) Int	2.85	2.7	13/10	5.4	5.4
Heidel (25p) Fin	1.1	0.84	17/9	2	1.71
Int Investment (25p) Int	0.9	0.7	26/9	1.8	1.8
Hume Higgs (25p) Fin	1.78	2.6	30/10	3.18	4.00
De (25p) Int	0.97	1.00	30/10	3.18	3.18
Loa & Liverpool (10p) Fin	0.13	0.13	30/9	0.60	0.40
Loa Elec & Gen. Fin	1.3	1.02	18/9	2.25	1.8
Mercantile Inv (25p) Int	0.43	0.43	16/9	1.60	1.60
Louis Newmark (25p) Fin	3.47	3.27	—	4.57	4.57
Nottingham Wkg (25p) Int	0.75	0.75	2/12	2.41	2.41
Phoenix Timber (25p) Fin	1.7	1.7	—	3.2	3.2
Rea Brothers (25p) Int	0.7	0.67	17/10	1.51	1.51
Vereniging Est Int	455	455	—	115	115
Bernard Wardle (10p) Int	0.44	0.44	—	1.13	1.13

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax in pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. \* Includes bonus 0.33p. † Adjusted per scrip. ‡ Cents a share.

## Corah hit by slump but Nottingham is outwardly serene

By Terry Byland

Three major suppliers of textile goods to the Marks & Spencer chain yesterday reported setbacks in the first halves of their respective trading years. Among them Corah, and Nottingham Manufacturing. Shares in textile suppliers to Marks suffered losses some weeks ago when the High Street retailer disclosed that it was cutting stocks by 10 per cent.

Corah, which sells the bulk of its limited clothing and fabrics to Marks & Spencer, disclosed a plunge of 53.4 per cent to £280,000 in pre-tax profits for six months to June 28. This includes a loss of £203,000 on the Canadian operation which, says the group, should be in profit by the end of the year. Total sales rose by 16.2 per cent to £12.9m. The interim dividend is 1p a share against 1.4p, and the shares fell 3p to 16p.

On the all-important United Kingdom side, where Marks & Spencer takes about 77 per cent

of production, and generates rather more than that percentage of profit, according to Mr J. Fry, the managing director, the setback is blamed on the domestic recession in the industry. Moves to remedy the situation to be completed by September, involve termination of production in some factories.

Mr Fry told Business News that the interim statement took full account of the stock cutting plans a Marks & Spencer, which had been discussed with Corah and other suppliers eight weeks ago. The interim statement made it clear that the board is looking beyond the immediate recession and regards the problems of the United Kingdom textile industry as "not temporary."

Pre-tax profits at Nottingham Manufacturing, another Marks & Spencer supplier, fell by 36 per cent to 2.33m in the six months to June 30, although sales went up from £30.8m to £33.1m.

## Louis Newmark slide steepens

Though turnover rose from £13.6m to £15.3m, the pre-tax profits of Louis Newmark, the electronic and precision engineering, fell from a record £1.7m to £1.26m in the year to March 29. Earnings a share slipped from 23.5p to 18.9p, but the dividend goes up from 6.89p to 7.65p.

A downturn in demand for equipment and components for the textile trade prompted a 7 per cent fall in interim profits to £606,000, but the second half produced a 27 per cent drop to £655,000 before tax. But the board says that it is not pessimistic.

## Baker Perkins brighter

Baker Perkins, the specialist plant manufacturers, have made a good start to the year, with

results for the June quarter well above budget. Sir Ivor Baker told the annual meeting. He expects an improvement in the American operations, which lost £1.4m in the preceding 15 months, but would not forecast a return to profit this year.

## Provisions by Hume's banking associate

Announcing the day before disposal of its stake in Hothly, Australia, for some £2.3m cash, investment trust Hum Holdings shows full-time pre-tax revenue for the year to June 30 down from £1.47m to £1.43m and the "attributable" sharply from £765,000 to £498,000. Associates - declined by £256,000 to a debit of £10,000.

## Phoenix Timber stay hopeful after slide

By Ashley Druker

Things got even worse for Phoenix Timber as the year to March 31 went by. In the first six months pre-tax profits slumped from £1.97m to £281,000. In the second six months the group made losses, so that the full year's profits fell from £2.29m to £261,000. Turnover, however, remained virtually unchanged at £30.9m.

Though Mr Alexander Gourvitch, chairman, hopefully detects some chink of light through the prevailing gloom, he does not hazard a forecast when such a revival will reach a satisfactory profit level. But in general he feels that now a long-standing Belgian subsidiary has been sold and that timber prices have grounded any upturn in the building industry should yield immediate benefits. In this light the directors have set the dividend at 4.53p a share against 4.67p.

This arises from provisions of £1.7m of the banking associate for doubtful debts.

The total gross dividend on the "A" is 4.3p (4p). The capital dividend on the "B" is estimated at 7.2 per cent (£5.73 per cent).

MACMILLAN BLOEDEL Quarterly dividend continued. First half net profit fell to £C19.9m (£50.2m), reflecting depressed demand for building materials, packaging products and liner-board. Ocean Transportation still losing money.

MITSUBI ISSUE Mitsui plans to raise \$50m through a 15-year convertible issue in the United States, and the international capital market. Managers are Smith Barney, Nomura Securities, and Goldman Sachs.

## Capitol comes out of the red

The results for the year to June 30 at Capitol Industries, the principal operating company in the United States of EMI, disclose a fall in net income from US\$7,322,000 to US\$5,262,000. During the final quarter of the year, there was a turnaround to a profit of US\$2m. A dividend for the final quarter of US\$0.08 is paid.

Mr John Read, chairman of EMI, said yesterday that Capitol's overall results were better than expected "in the face of the worst depression the United States had experienced since the Thirties."

## Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

5 STRAIGHTS	Mid	Offer
ADPC 10/1/1983	101 1/2	102 1/2
Airline 8/1/1978	81 1/2	82 1/2
Airline 8/1/1981	81 1/2	82 1/2
Airline 8/1/1984	81 1/2	82 1/2
Airline 8/1/1987	81 1/2	82 1/2
Airline 8/1/1990	81 1/2	82 1/2
British Steel Corp 8/1/1978	81 1/2	82 1/2
Burlington 7/1/1987	80 1/2	81 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1980	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1983	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1986	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1989	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1992	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1995	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/1998	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2001	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2004	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2007	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2010	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2013	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2016	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2019	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2022	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2025	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2028	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2031	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2034	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2037	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2040	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2043	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2046	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2049	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2052	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2055	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2058	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2061	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2064	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2067	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2070	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2073	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2076	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2079	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2082	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2085	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2088	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2091	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2094	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2097	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2100	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2103	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2106	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2109	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2112	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2115	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2118	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2121	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2124	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2127	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2130	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2133	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2136	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2139	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2142	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2145	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2148	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2151	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2154	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2157	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2160	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2163	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2166	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2169	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2172	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2175	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2178	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2181	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2184	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2187	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2190	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2193	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2196	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2199	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2202	79 1/2	80 1/2
Chrysler 7/1/2205	79 1/2	80 1/2
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## Recent Issues

## Motoring

## Sacrificing four wheels for two in safety

Comments on my recent article on the subject of safety suggest that there are many who would be only too glad to sacrifice four wheels for two if only they could be convinced that it was a sensible thing to do so.

I pointed out, a cyclist is statistically far more vulnerable on the road than a car driver, though it is encouraging that in the first three months of casualties among both adult and child cyclists fell by 3 per cent despite a 5 per cent increase in the number of miles.

The ideal solution, of course, is to encourage cyclists from other traffic by giving them special lanes, and more and more local authorities are doing so. I pointed out that the idea of a cycle lane is not new, but that in the first three months of casualties among both adult and child cyclists fell by 3 per cent despite a 5 per cent increase in the number of miles.

A detailed survey of the various makes and types of bicycle appeared in the May issue of *Which?* the consumer magazine. Bicycles, unlike cars and motor cycles, are the one area of personal transport in which British manufacturers still dominate their own market. In 1974, which has about 70 per cent of the sales, the British manufacturers were responsible for the sale of only the Austrian Steyr-Puch offering much of a challenge. Japanese bicycles, so far at least, are virtually unknown.

And where you may ask, is the British equivalent? The Vauxhall Chevette goes part of the way, being the first small car made here with a door at the back. But it is 19 inches longer than the Renault 5, which has a folding rear seat which enables the car to double as a small estate, has been followed by the Volkswagen Polo and is rumoured to be playing with the design as well.

The Renault 5, which first appeared in Britain in October, 1972, has become the archetypal small family car. The Fiat 127 may have come first but it did not, in its original form, offer the third door, or tailgate, which is such an important part of the Renault's appeal. The formula of transverse engine/front wheel drive, an overall length of about 11ft 18 inches longer than the Mini and the tailgate plus a folding rear seat which enables the car to double as a small estate, has been followed by the Volkswagen Polo and is rumoured to be playing with the design as well.

As for British Leyland, it has always dismissed the Renault as a copy of its own Mini. That is true up to a point, though many would say that the French car is a substantial improvement on the Isigonis design. Thus the Renault 5 is almost as easy to manoeuvre in traffic and to park and is very economical but is roomier and more versatile. It also has a much better ride.

The Renault 5 has been so influential that it has been widely assumed that the next Mini must follow in Leyland's footsteps, partly conceding the point by building a three-door and slightly bigger bodied Mini at its Innocent plant.

small wheeler has obvious attractions.

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The Renault 5 TS—a more powerful version of an outstanding small family car.

ations in a city and now accounts for about a third of all sales, the two older types each taking another third. Recently a new kind of "executive" machine has appeared which combines the light frame of the sports model with the ordinary square handlebars.

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### Volvo

THE VERY LAST AT PRE-INCREASE PRICES!  
2400 cc. 1600 cc. 1800 cc. 2000 cc. 2300 cc. 2600 cc. 2800 cc. 3000 cc. 3600 cc. 4000 cc. 4600 cc. 5000 cc. 5600 cc. 6000 cc. 6600 cc. 7000 cc. 7600 cc. 8000 cc. 8600 cc. 9000 cc. 9600 cc. 10000 cc. 10600 cc. 11000 cc. 11600 cc. 12000 cc. 12600 cc. 13000 cc. 13600 cc. 14000 cc. 14600 cc. 15000 cc. 15600 cc. 16000 cc. 16600 cc. 17000 cc. 17600 cc. 18000 cc. 18600 cc. 19000 cc. 19600 cc. 20000 cc. 20600 cc. 21000 cc. 21600 cc. 22000 cc. 22600 cc. 23000 cc. 23600 cc. 24000 cc. 24600 cc. 25000 cc. 25600 cc. 26000 cc. 26600 cc. 27000 cc. 27600 cc. 28000 cc. 28600 cc. 29000 cc. 29600 cc. 30000 cc. 30600 cc. 31000 cc. 31600 cc. 32000 cc. 32600 cc. 33000 cc. 33600 cc. 34000 cc. 34600 cc. 35000 cc. 35600 cc. 36000 cc. 36600 cc. 37000 cc. 37600 cc. 38000 cc. 38600 cc. 39000 cc. 39600 cc. 40000 cc. 40600 cc. 41000 cc. 41600 cc. 42000 cc. 42600 cc. 43000 cc. 43600 cc. 44000 cc. 44600 cc. 45000 cc. 45600 cc. 46000 cc. 46600 cc. 47000 cc. 47600 cc. 48000 cc. 48600 cc. 49000 cc. 49600 cc. 50000 cc. 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